



# The Central High REGISTER

Since 1886  
The oldest  
school paper  
west of the  
Mississippi

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EDITION



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much, much more

## 36% make honor roll

By Katie Cleary

Thirty-six percent of all Central students were on this year's first semester honor roll. This is an 11 percent increase from last year's first semester honor roll. With 1750 students, this translates to approximately 635 students on the honor roll first semester, and 432 students on it last year, first semester.

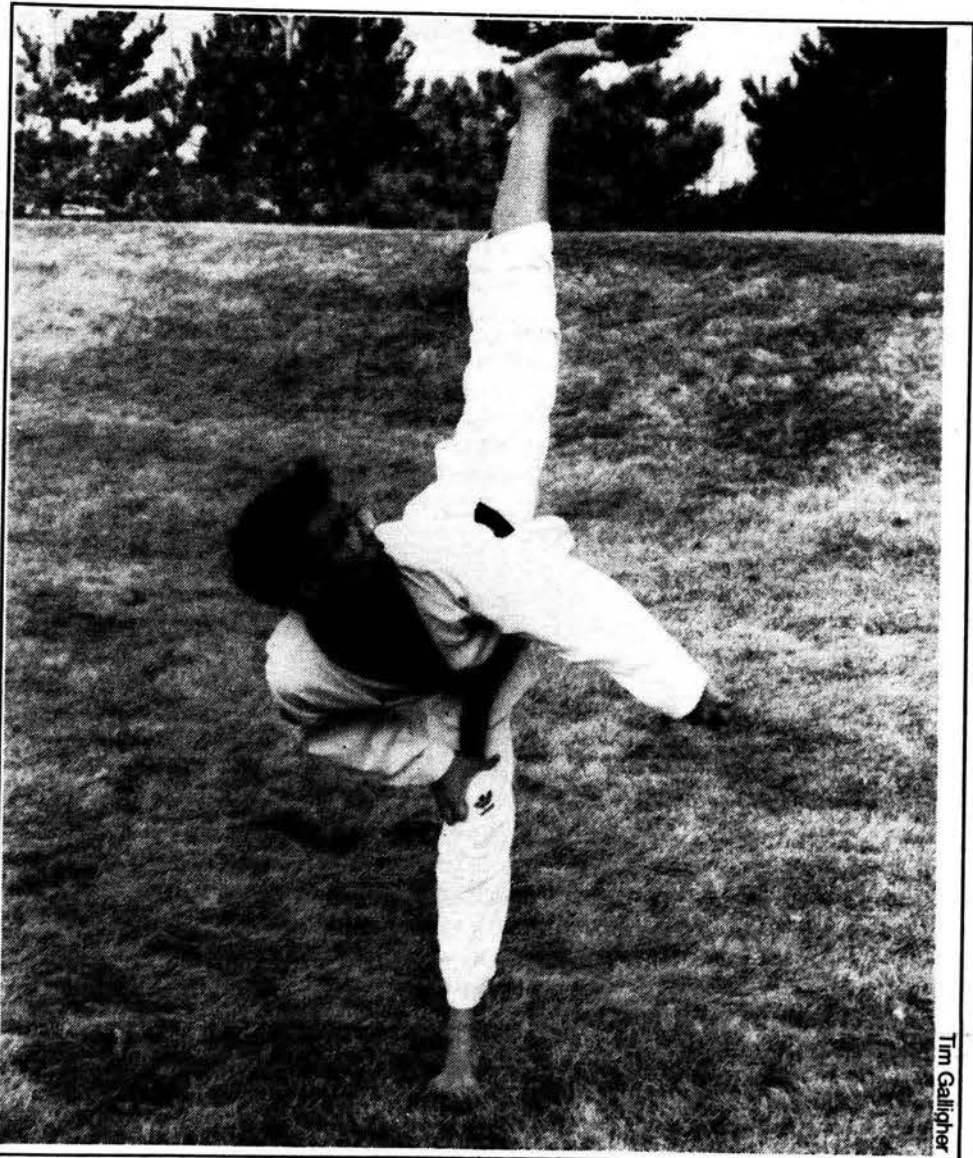
According to Dr. G.E. Moller, Central High principal, the reason for the increase is the fact that the honor roll is different. Before this year, the honor roll was for students with a grade point average of 3.5 or better.

This year a new system came into effect. The new honor roll has three divisions as opposed to simply listing the names as before. The Golden Eagle is the highest category for students with a grade point average of 4.0 or above. The Special Distinction division is for students with a 3.5 to 3.99 GPA. The High Achievement is for students with a GPA of 3.0 to 3.49. The Academic Achievement division is for Special Education students on the honor roll.

The decision to change the honor roll was a "cooperative idea, with the concept coming from parents, administrators, and department heads," said Dr. Moller. Dr. Moller said that many people encouraged the change because they felt that "earning straight two's is a high achievement which should be recognized."

Mr. Paul Pennington, a student support and math teacher, likes the new honor roll because "it gives more people recognition." Mr. Kevin Moran, counselor, agrees. "For the kids who work very

Continued on page 6



Tim Gallipher

Flexibility is a must in this position... Sophomore Mike Teanio, a second-degree black belt, won the GOLD MEDAL for karate in the 1991 Junior Olympics. He has won several medals in competitions around the world and teaches taekwondo at Offutt Air Force Base. (See page 15)

## 'Class of '92 has made a difference'

By LaVonya Watson

This year's Central High School commencement exercises will be held at a different location.

A commencement committee made up of faculty members, parents and senior class officers representing the student body, voted unanimously to use the UNO Field House for commencement exercises this year.

"Staff members refuse to be humiliated," said Mrs. Nared, Central assistant principal and member of the committee. "Parents, students and others closely affiliated with Central complained about what we were letting happen at graduation," she said.

According to Mrs. Nared, last year's commencement exercises involved throwing toilet paper, metal objects, beach balls, jacks and marbles at faculty members and seniors by seniors and people in the audience. "The commencement committee was established to look at commencement and changing the format," she said. Mrs. Nared said that faculty members had considered not having a graduation exercise at all and passing out diplomas at school.

According to Tom Rose, senior class president and member of commencement committee, the committee had also considered

having parents sit by students during commencement, frisking students before commencement, not giving students gowns until they arrived at commencement and requiring students to wear nice clothes. "We turned them down because students would lose respect," said Tom.

Central principal Dr. G. E. Moller is very pleased with the move. "I am eager to see if it makes a difference in tone," he said.

"All spectators will be much closer to the graduates and feel more a part of the program. Graduation is not just for seniors but for relatives."

Dr. John T. Langan, a parent and OPS Board member who is on the committee, thinks the Civic Auditorium possesses a large and cold atmosphere. He said the committee was looking for a warm atmosphere where students would not be so far from friends and family. "It is not

a permanent move," he said. "The committee is trying a new location to make it the nicest, warmest [graduation] for '92 graduates. Graduation is for parents and students and the last time for students to say 'I earned something.'"

"Personally I'm against the move," said Mark Rosenquist, senior boys sergeant-at-arms. "I don't think the environment will change student behavior significantly."

According to Mark, who began a poll of students, many students he talked to were against the move. "The majority agree that it will not make a difference," he said.

"At the Civic everything is spread out," said Tom. According to Tom, subconsciously the Civic Auditorium reminds one of a circus, monster trucks, basketball games and baseball card sales. "It's rowdy and not

honorable for commencement," he said.

"The move to the UNO Field House is more convenient," said Liz Lieben, girls sergeant-at-arms. "I think the move is good," she said. "Last year's graduation was not the kind of atmosphere I want for my graduation."

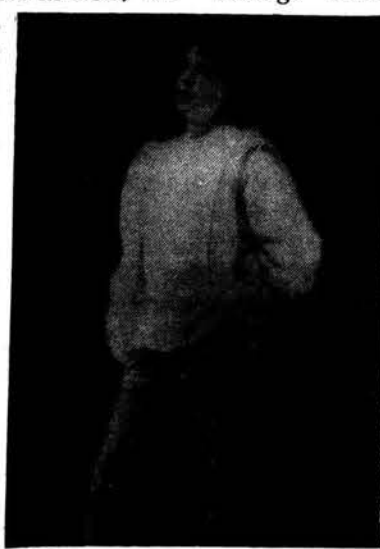
At a senior auditorium homeroom February 12, Tom announced the change in commencement plans to the entire senior class.

"We can look back and say the class of '92 has made a difference," he said.

According to Dr. Langan other locations had also been considered for commencement. He said the committee wanted to rent a facility that would allow more attendance at graduation. According to Dr. Langan, May 26th will remain the date of Central's graduation due to schedule conflicts.

According to Dr. Moller a change in facilities will also entail a change in costs. The UNO Field House will cost 2,200 dollars compared to the 85 dollar rental fee of the Civic Auditorium. Ticket sales will cover the costs, according to Dr. Moller.

Program changes may also take place in the '92 commencement program, according to Dr. Moller. However, plans have not been made official.



Kristen Steenberg

### The President speaks...

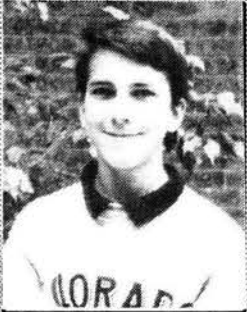
Tom Rose, senior class president, addresses seniors.

the Civic Auditorium reminds one of a circus, monster trucks, basketball games and baseball card sales. "It's rowdy and not

# Centralite VOICES

Do you approve of City Councilman Lee Terry's proposed bill to cut down on cruising on Dodge Street?

**YES: 18% NO: 82%**  
100 students were polled



"No. You could be running errands and get picked up for cruising."  
—Jim Kovarik  
Freshman



"Yes, because it is hard to get anywhere on Dodge with all the traffic."  
—Owei Bellah  
Senior



"I like the idea, but the way they are handling it isn't correct."  
—Leah Cha  
Junior



"No, there are too many cruisers on Dodge; they might catch one or two."  
—Christy Ashford  
Senior



"No. The police department should be out enforcing more serious laws."  
—Tara Randolph  
Sophomore



"No. Laws that infringe upon our personal freedom are a last resort."  
—Dr. J. Shawver  
English Teacher

Photos by Cheryl Kulus

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## Terry proposal too weak to be enforced in Omaha area

Have you ever driven down Dodge Street on a Friday or Saturday night? If you have, you probably have noticed a problem that has been bothering the Omaha City Council for years: people who cruise on Dodge Street.

City Councilman Lee Terry is pursuing an effort to eliminate the problem of people cruising on Dodge and loitering in the nearby parking lots. Terry introduced a bill which would make it illegal for motorists to pass by a certain point on Dodge Street more than three times within three hours.

He simply wants the proposal to pose as a threat and to scare youth away from cruising on Dodge Street. Because this proposal is merely a scare tactic it has many flaws. It introduces unreasonable legislation to citizens and puts a seemingly heavy burden upon the police department.

First of all, this ordinance would put unneeded restriction upon law-abiding citizens. The law would be applicable to all drivers on Dodge Street during the targeted time periods.

This means that people who live or work nearby and just happen to pass by a certain point more than three times within three hours could be punished. This law does not allow citizens the right to come and go as they choose.

Similar to the earlier proposal of a curfew by City Councilman Steve Exon, the anti-cruising

ordinance is unenforceable by the police.

In order to meet the demands of this law, officers would be set up at certain points on Dodge Street to observe the passing cars. It would be difficult for the police to catch all the violators because there would be too many violators to punish.

An argument against this may be to employ more officers so that some may watch for offenders while others chase these offenders. But, the police department is already busy with calls on Dodge Street to administer the proposed ordinance.

In a recent study, it was found that home burglaries increased by 192% in just the past year. The number of robberies, assaults and vehicle thefts also increased in 1991.

With crime on the rise in Omaha, how can the police department be expected to enforce the anti-cruising ordinance while they are already occupied with fighting crimes?

Protection from crime is a basic guarantee that citizens can expect from their local police department. Stationing several officers on Dodge Street to enforce the Terry proposal, this basic principle could be violated.

The anti-cruising ordinance cannot be considered as serious legislation because it is unenforceable by the police. Any law that is unenforceable is weak to exist as legislation.

## African-American history programs achieve success

The Central High School student body is known for academic excellence, and beyond that, for the ability to excel in all areas. The students of the past, as well as those of the present, have proven that teens do have the responsibility to deal with adult problems and business.

One major area that Central students have proven themselves in is the performing arts. The students have, almost miraculously at times, pulled off every show, performance or student assembly with grace. But, as is to be expected with any student-involved activity, problems have arisen.

The annual African-American assemblies at Central are a prime example. This year two separate types of assemblies were held for the students: a professional production and a student production. Both were very successful in getting their point across, but separate problems arose with each.

The professional production was a good idea, but the main problem was the scheduling. While the placement was better than that of last year, it was far from ideal.

The idea to plan the performance earlier in the day was commendable; it left less room for students to skip the end of the day because it was during eighth and ninth hour rather than tenth.

However, the Register staff feels that the program would be more successful if it were

placed in the morning. This would increase attendance by forcing early release students to attend while still reducing the chance of skipping class.

The student-led performances for African-American history month were planned well by the students and it gave Centralites the opportunity to participate in the celebration of African-American history month.

The performance was based more on current African-American "heroes," people that students could more readily identify with, as opposed to traditional historical figures. This, as well as the precise planning by the students, added to the success of such an assembly.

The only problems that arose in the student-led performances were in the technical aspect of the programs. Various audio and lighting difficulties occurred throughout the performance, but must not hasten to place the blame entirely on the students working the equipment.

While Central is equipped with very up-to-date equipment, it is not feasible to expect it to be in perfect condition at all times; stage equipment suffers some wear.

All in all, however, the African-American assemblies ran efficiently and effectively for the student body. The Register staff commends the professional performers and the student participants for an interesting and informative program.

**Opposing Points of View**

**OPS code violates privacy**

Shawn W. Lanz

Lately, much controversy has arisen over an issue that never should have taken place in the first place. The issue: the OPS code of conduct for students. The case: North High School state wrestler who was not allowed to participate in the district tournament on Saturday, February 15, as a result of a felony drug charge that occurred OFF SCHOOL GROUNDS.

Eighteen year old Stanley Parker was accused of a felony drug charge, but the city's judicial system turned out to be the second punishment for Parker; North High School officials had already passed judgment and sentenced him to a five-day suspension before the young man even went to court.

Parker was guilty until proven innocent, in the eyes of the school, for a crime that did not involve the educational facility at all.

For Stanley Parker, who filed suit against the Omaha School District for its decision, the case is wrapped up; the school system has the right to defend its rules, and it has a signed statement from all students that they are aware of the rules, which are relayed in the code of conduct included in the student handbook.

The question is, is the code itself fair? Does the Omaha School District really have the power to over-rule the rights that we are "guaranteed" in our Constitution? The OPS Code of Conduct states that:

"...the school district is extending its authority to hours and places beyond the regularly perceived boundaries in an effort to show strongly to students and the community our intent to work with and help all youngsters in their decision-making."

What? This effort is very gallant, but it is not the School Board's responsibility to "extend its authority" to any time or place that is out of the reach of its jurisdiction. This quality of jurisdiction is, essentially, like trying a person twice for the same crime. The code of conduct identifies "prohibited conduct" as selling or possession with intent to sell any type of drug or controlled substance, attempting or committing either sexual or physical assault and the use or attempted use of a weapon to injure another person.

One must freely admit that these types of activities are illegal, and the Omaha Public Schools have the right to judge and punish any violations that occur within established boundaries of the educational environment. That is where their right of jurisdiction ends.

Naturally, when any citizen is charged with a crime, the long arm of the law intervenes, and the judicial system eventually decides the punishment. This is the type of separation of powers upon which the governing bodies of our nation are based. So what gives the school system, or any other such organization, the right to add a fourth branch to the delicate balance of powers that our forefathers have established for us?

The student code of conduct is wrong in its assumption that the Board of Education has the right to oversee every aspect of the lives of its students. The laws of the United States, as well as those found in the U.S. Constitution and its amendments, provide for the punishment of crime, and the only power that the school board does have in these cases is the power to provide punishment for violations that directly interfere with learning in the educational arena. The school board would not be permitted to punish a student for something like indecent exposure in France, so why is it allowed to pass judgment, even before the law, on Stanley Parker for allegedly selling drugs in Omaha? It just does not make sense.

**Students protected by code**

Katie Rickerl

The Omaha Public Schools' (OPS) code of conduct for behavior off school grounds states, "... the school district is extending its authority to hours and places beyond the regularly perceived boundaries in an effort to show strongly to students and the community our intent to work with and help all youngsters in their decision-making." The OPS code of conduct gives school officials the right to punish a student for his/her actions outside of school, who are "charged criminally ... or on whom a petition has been filed in juvenile court for prohibited conduct." By giving school officials this authority, the OPS board is trying to protect students from law-breaking students by setting a disciplinary model for these criminally charged students.

Most opposing opinions of the OPS code of conduct say that it is not fair to the students for the schools to intervene in a student's private life. But, the OPS board does not intervene in a student's private life unless he/she has been criminally charged. The student handbook lists specific examples of prohibited actions such as drug possession and distribution, sexual assault and the use of a weapon to injure another person.

It is not as if students are being punished for getting a speeding ticket or some other minor violation. The student must be charged with a serious crime before action is taken against him.

By having a strict code of conduct, OPS gives its students a sense of security in knowing that the schools are doing everything in their power to keep criminally charged students out of school. Would you feel safe going to school with a classmate that has been charged as a rapist or arrested for selling drugs?

These powers that the school officials have to punish students are not so unreasonable, as most opposers argue. First of all, the student's criminal record must be reviewed by the school officials. If they decide that he/she should be punished, his/her mandatory punishment is only comprised of a five-day suspension, exclusion from co-curricular activities for the remainder of the semester and completion of a counseling program. These forms of punishment are not overwhelmingly cruel, considering the seriousness of being charged with a crime.

Punishment is judged upon the severity of the crime committed and, "if the student's conduct presents a clear threat to the physical safety of himself/herself or others...or is so extremely disruptive as to make temporary removal necessary to preserve the rights of other students to pursue an education."

The code of conduct is a valuable tool in maintaining discipline in the schools. These rules are not by any means infringing upon students' rights. They are simply set up to benefit us, the students, by keeping suspected criminals out of school and securing our academic environment.



**Cowboys, cops and Rambo responsible for children's aggression**

Simply Polyester

Todd Djureen

Dear Todd,

I have a problem. It may at first seem somewhat silly, so please don't laugh at me, but it is really a severe problem that is not only tearing me to smithereens, but the whole nation as well. I would like you to offer any advice that you possibly can.

My story begins when I was a child. Well, it is very simple, my folks never let me play with guns. Not real guns, but play guns.

It was never fun for me to play cops and robbers, cowboys and Indians, good guy and bad guy because I would always get shot right away and could not continue the game.

All the other kids wanted to play these games with me; they knew that they could always take their aggression out on me because I was the one without the M-16. I was always getting

It destroyed my ego. I felt so vulnerable and insecure simply because I didn't have a gun that could even compare to their fully automatic play rifles. What is a child to do without the security of his play guns?

Look at me now; I am suffering a nervous breakdown because I cannot cope with the forces in our society today that are solved with violence. My psyche has been shaped to that of a non-violent person. Do I need to go out and buy a gun so that I can deal with this modern society?

Desperately,  
Non-violent Ned

Dear Ned,

**Not a problem! I would tell you not to worry, but that is easier said than done. Let's examine the situation. You live in a world that pivots on aggression—realize that you are a loner since you cannot communicate through aggression, but that's okay.**

**In today's society everything from the everyday children's toys to a multi-billion dollar industry of movie making is all of a violent nature. It is not your fault that we are conditioning our youth to solve their problems through stupid means.**

**Face it, if you were to go and hit some arbitrary person really hard, they would probably hit you back, maybe even harder. Pretty soon both of you would be engaged in a huge brawl. What would it accomplish—ZILCH. You can never beat a message into anybody!**

**You must realize that the problem is not you, it is the culture that you live in. I must say that you have a personal strength and that you are a crusader for the human race.**

**Again, I remind you that it is not your fault that we have taught the children to solve their problems through violent means. Don't resort to violence to solve your problems. The most civilized way you can deal with today's society is to express what you believe through the most**

**descriptive ways you know how. I do not believe that the most precise way is through violence. Doesn't it make you wonder what this world is coming to when the only way people know how to work out their problems is through vehemence or barbarity?**

**The Chinese word for wisdom, hui, literally means to sweep away clutter. By not letting violence clutter your means of communication, I think that you are a very wise person.**

Sincerely,  
TODD DJUREEN

Dear Todd,

I need your help. I just got done watching a movie. I know you won't be able to believe this, but it was the most gory, gross, and gruesome (alliteration) thing that I have ever seen. There were guns, fist-fights and blood everywhere.

I remember this one scene specifically where these two guys got into an argument which ended by one man shooting the other.

It really made me think about when I get into arguments with my Dad. I wouldn't be very

happy if he ended up shooting me. What would it solve if I were dead? I am having a tough time separating imagination from reality. Do you have any suggestions?

Sincerely,  
Shag

Dear Shag,

**I know what you mean. Violence, along with sex, sells movies. The more action-packed and bloody a movie; chances are the movie will be a hit.**

**The movies are getting more and more violent, and I can see how what is on the screen can easily confuse you with what we know as reality.**

**I understand your point about being shot by your Dad to resolve a problem. The sad thing is, in the movies or even on television they never show a person getting punished for a crime.**

**Rambo could plunder and pillage all he wanted to and never get prosecuted for it. Will youths think they can get away with being violent, maybe even to the point of death, towards a person if they don't show this reality on the silver screen?**

**Who knows? But I do know that the movie industry is spoiling our brains by making it seem that the only way to solve a problem or to show your dislike for a person is to kill or beat up on a person.**

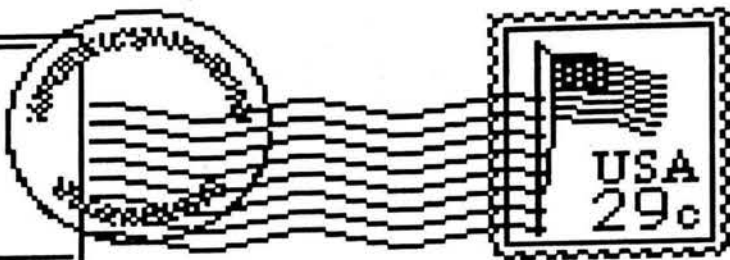
**Going to the movies is a common pastime for people of all ages. Do we wonder why today's society has drug, gang, AIDS and violence problems?**

**Is it the movies that comment on society, or is it, that society comments on the movies? Either way, there is a problem with solving complications through violent means in today's culture, and I believe that the movies are partly to blame.**

**My suggestion to you is to stick with the comedies. Why not go see a movie that will make you leave the theater happy? There are just so many funny things...**

Sincerely,  
TODD DJUREEN

## Letters to the Editor



The Central High Register welcomes its readers' opinions.

If you have any suggestions or criticism for the Register that you wish to have printed, send your letters to the editorial staff in room 315.

Letters will be printed according to space availability. Unsigned letters will not be printed.

### Final exams held before semester break would benefit students

To the editor,

I believe it would greatly benefit students to schedule first semester exams before Christmas vacation. It is very difficult to remember everything after having a two-week vacation; most teachers don't hand out review sheets, and the material is easily forgotten.

I don't think students should be expected to study on their vacation. Most private schools [have tests before the semester break], and their first semester ends long before the Christmas vacation.

I think test scores would improve if the date was moved.

Julie Marvin  
Sophomore

### Human growth and development classes properly inform teens

To the editor,

I am responding to Centralite Voices and [the editorial] "Sex education a smart solution," (January 29, 1992).

I think that opting out of Human Growth and Development Class should not be allowed unless for religious reasons.

Students need to take this class in order to be informed not only about preventing STD's, pregnancy or irresponsible sex, but also to learn about themselves and their feelings. I feel it is necessary for students who don't hear about this stuff from their parents to be able to take a class to properly inform them about the risks they face.

I think that if students were required to take a study hall instead of taking another class, more students would stay with HGD. A lot of students opt out to take honors classes so that they can have a higher GPA.

I feel it should be more difficult to get out of Human Growth and Development Classes.

Shuntel Nurton  
Sophomore

### Teen-agers often misinformed about sexually transmitted diseases

To the editor:

I believe that your editorial "Sex education a smart solution" will help persuade students and parents into supporting human growth and development [programs].

I think this article is greatly beneficial to those who are sexually active or to those who are thinking about sexual activity. Teen-agers out there need to consider the consequences of having sex; not only the physical consequences, but also the emotional consequences that could take over.

Pregnancy and STD's are very sensitive issues. Therefore, most teenagers are misinformed and don't know facts from fables. The human growth and development classes could change your life, or help to lead you in the right direction. Take advantage of it!

Missy Hempel  
Sophomore

### Right to die eliminates suffering and misery of death for chronically ill

To the editor,

Todd Djureen's column, "Death inevitable for living organisms," (January 29, 1992), was great. I would much rather see someone die than to have them suffering and being miserable; the final outcome is still the same.

If there isn't a possibility for someone to have a normal life again, I don't believe in hooking them up to a machine...unless they wanted it that way. Families think that keeping the victim alive will save their sanity; what they do not realize is that they are already mourning over the loved one.

I don't agree with keeping anyone alive against their own free will. Like you said, animals don't have the choice to live or die, and some of these unfortunate people hooked up to machines don't have the choice either. Their families and doctors decide what is best for them.

I don't know about you, but I definitely know I don't want someone else taking my life into their own hands.

Kelli Ulrich  
Sophomore

### Judging of Road Show tryouts fair

To the editor,

In regard to the article, "Road Show attempts equality," (January 29, 1992), I agree that we needed to tell the student population that they are being as fair as possible in judging the try-outs.

People always seem to find a way to put a racial argument into something, and this article might stop them from doing that to this year's Road Show. The judges are balanced racially, and they are voting with a more open mind.

You stated in the article that the judges are voting for the acts that they think everybody will enjoy rather than those they know somebody in. The judges could not even use facial expression, so I feel that the auditions were fair.

Rodd Fuller  
Sophomore

### Sleeping in study halls 'shouldn't be up to teachers to decide'

To the editor,

My opinion on the Point of View, "Sleeping in study halls justifiable," (January 29, 1992) is that the students are old enough to make their own decisions. If they want to take a nap in study hall, let them!

If teachers had to go to school all day, then go to work until ten o'clock, then go home and do their homework, they would probably be sleeping in study halls, too! If students want to do their homework, they will do it; it shouldn't be up to teachers to decide.

Heather Godfrey  
Sophomore

### Honor roll 'a detriment' to students

To the editor,

I believe that your editorial on the new honor roll system being "useful" is incorrect. I feel that it [the new honor roll] is more of a detriment than it is helpful to students.

The new system categorizes the honor roll into sections by the students' GPA. This makes the students look at their grades competitively and not on [a basis of] personal achievement.

I feel that if a student works hard to earn their 3.0 or better, they should be praised for their achievement; not ranked on a scale of who's the smartest.

This makes the person feel that if they are on the bottom of the honor roll scale, that they have not worked hard enough, or that they are ignorant compared to the "Golden Eagles" (4.0 or above).

Chris Meyer  
Senior

### Japanese businesses not to blame for America's failing economy

To the editor:

My letter is written in concern with America's economy. With all the hype circulating the issue of America's recession and the question of who the new president will be and how he is going to deal with it, I find it very disturbing how America is responding to the bad economic conditions of our time.

It all started with magazine articles about "bashing." There are numerous types such as gay, white or Asian. Even more specifically, Japanese-bashing. My purpose is to express my disapproval of the political form of discrimination taking place.

No person of any race, religion or culture needs to be subject to hatred. In hopes of putting an end to racism, why are we conjuring up more reasons to dislike a group or culture of people? For example, in watching the State of the Union address I found it downright absurd to include a question on who is to blame for America's recession.

The three choices were: government, business or Japan?! We have no right to blame the Japanese for our problems. People should be looked at on an individual basis, not as a stereotype.

I believe the only ones to blame are ourselves—the American people. We live in a capitalistic and democratic country. We have a representative form of government.

We voice our opinions on how to run our local, state, national governments through a system of voting as consumers, determine what products are on the market. We chose this form of government and we must lead it.

It is obvious that along the way we made some wrong decisions. So why are we blaming the Japanese for economic problems? America is the land of opportunity. The Japanese are just taking part in these opportunities.

Sure, I've heard all about the Japanese takeover of American industries, but we are the ones who sell our businesses to them.

Japan's trade advantages over the United States equal to that of the United States' trade advantages over Canada and Mexico combined. The Japanese are killing our economy. What they are doing is providing healthy competition which will hopefully lead us to providing new and better goods and services and forming a more efficient government and trade system, a principle of marketing and economics.

Let's put an end to "bashing" of any kind and promote unity within our society by not falling for the political discrimination taking place today.

Hope Nguyen  
Junior

### Earlier games decrease violence

To the editor:

I like the idea of "Early b-ball games" (January 29, 1992). This allows people to do things in the evenings. I like the earlier times because it [attracts] a few more people to the games.

Since the earlier times seem to be convenient for school officials and the police department, most games should start earlier. Even though the earlier time allows the police to send more officers to the game, all of the violence will not be eliminated. It does, however, decrease the amount of violence [at the games].

Nathan Rosenthal  
Sophomore

### 'Central would have better teams if intramurals were offered'

To the editor:

I agree with Al Bakhit's column "Why can't Central offer intramurals?" and that it is a great idea for students to think about.

It is not fair for the people who are cut from teams just sit around and do nothing until the next year. Then, the people on the team will have already had all the practice and will most likely be the ones to make the team again next year.

By having intramurals, the people cut would also have the chance of sharpening their own skills in the game. It wouldn't have to be all work; it would be something to go and have fun.

Central would have better teams if intramurals were offered.

Heather Shonka  
Sophomore

### 'Pandora' production deserves story

To the editor,

I would like to make a complaint about the story "Pandora" in the last issue of the Register (January 29, 1992). In the section entitled "Inside Today's Edition" you mentioned the show, which made the reader think that you might actually talk about the musical. However, the story [on that page] mentioned nothing about "Pandora" or what was involved except for a small caption under the picture.

I have lots of friends in drama. I would like to go to this production, but the fact is I would have liked to know more about it and what it involved.

Beth Bender  
Sophomore

**CORRECTION:** In the editorial "Sex education a smart solution" (January 29, 1992), the first paragraph should have stated that 34% of Omahans that are diagnosed as having STD's are between the ages of 15 and 19 instead of "34% of people between the ages of 15 and 19 are diagnosed as having some sort of STD."

# Shelby Lewis finds 'really good job' roller skating senior inspires young people

Sean Chapman

"They all want to be just like me," said Shelby Lewis, to her fans. She works as a floor guard and D.J. at Skateland.

Shelby has been working at Skateland for over three years. "It all started when I was younger and attended pool skating parties. All my friends could skate better than me, so my mother encouraged me to take lessons," said Shelby.

According to Shelby, she first felt success in her first year of lessons. "I was finally able to skate better than any of my other friends," said Shelby.

According to Shelby, she had been skating about six years before she got her job. "I would always help a lot around the rink and after a while they just offered me a job," said Shelby.

They started me off as a snack bar girl, but I eventually worked my way up the ladder," said Shelby.

Shelby is presently working as a floor guard and disc-jockey. "After working in the snack bar, I went on to work as a floor guard.

As a floor guard I am responsible to patrol the rink and make sure the skaters are not being reckless," said Shelby.

I furthered my experience at Skateland by volunteering to work as the D.J. when they need one," said Shelby.

As a D.J., I'm responsible for playing the music and controlling the floor."

According to Shelby it's a "really good job. I get to play all the music that I want, and I'm able to skate around a lot of the time.

"Most of the music that we play is in the top 100 list. However, we play a lot of rap; that seems to be what our crowd likes to listen to," said Shelby. According to Shelby, Skateland tends to draw a large crowd. "It just depends upon the night and the season. Fridays are the busiest of all other days; we usually get over 200 people," she said.

"People seem to be under the impression that only kids go to Skateland but that is not true. There's a wide range in ages of the people that go to skate," she said.

According to Shelby the younger crowd only attends during the days on Saturday. "That's when we play the Hokey Pokey. I like

my job; I get to work with a lot of little kids and that's really fun, it's always interesting," said Shelby.

According to Shelby, all the kids wish they could have her job. "Little kids look up to me. I play the music that they like to hear, and that makes them feel good. I was one of those little kids once too."

Shelby intends to continue working as a D.J. until she goes away to college. "I would like to continue to work as a D.J., perhaps later on when I'm at college," said Shelby.



Cheryl Kulius

Coming up next... Shelby spins the records at Skateland.

# Central ROTC student becomes Merchant Marine

By Andrea Davis

"I've been waiting for this since I was three-years-old," said Karen Bostic, senior, who was nominated to attend the United States Merchant Marine Academy. "When I was that age, women were not yet allowed in the Academy, but I said that I was going to [join] anyway."

The merchant marines is a branch of the United States Armed Forces. Most of the jobs they would perform would be manning supply ships, working on commercial ships and working in the maritime industry. "People in the maritime industry can do almost anything," said the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy admissions officer. "They can be presidents of companies, insurance brokers, shipbuilders, any of the many jobs we prepare the students for here."

Karen was nominated to attend the academy by Senator Bob Kerrey. "Senator Kerrey called me from Washington, D.C. to congratulate me," said Karen. She was the only student chosen from the Omaha Public School System and also the only woman to be chosen in Nebraska. The deciding factor for her admission to the Academy will be her scores on the ACT. To enter, she must have a score of 19 in English and 25 in math. "I feel confident that my scores will be high enough," said Karen. "My biggest problem is my size. I am just barely tall enough."

At the Academy, Karen will be participating in the dual major program studying engineering and transportation. To complete her studies, she will spend three years studying at the academy and one year at sea. To attend the academy, which is free, she will have to serve six years in the Navy reserves or four years active duty. "I plan to be an officer in the army doing military intelligence or work in a commercial firm," said Karen. "The starting salary right after graduation can be anywhere from a hundred thousand to nine-hundred thousand dollars a year in a commercial firm." But money is not the only thing motivating Karen to pick this career. "Patriotism is very strong in me," she said. "I want to give back to my country what it has given to me."

# Vegetarianism — not as simple as it looks

by Todd Djureen

"Do vegetarians eat animal crackers?" Clint Richards, senior, inquires about the issue of vegetarianism, an issue of increasing concern during the decade of the environment first. Not only is vegetarianism a concern for the environment, but health matters, economic, and animal rights are all underlying themes for why many Centralites abstain from meat.

Willie Bogue, junior, clearly defines the modern vegetarian. "Any person that doesn't eat red meat or poultry is a vegetarian." According to Willie, abstaining from meat alone is not classified as being a vegetarian; however, a basic vegetarian does not eat meat or poultry but may enjoy some fish.

A vegan does not eat or use any animal by-products. This includes eggs and all dairy

products. "There are some things that some vegetarians will eat and others won't," said Megan Horton, senior, who does not eat any red meat and some poultry. Megan added, "They [vegetarians] have their reasons for not eating certain things."

### The Environment

The environment is one reason many people resort to a vegetarian diet.

"The land used to raise the cattle absorbs the nitrates from their urine and can be very harmful. It [the raising of livestock] reaps havoc on the land," said Elissa Mendenhall, junior.

### Nutrition

Good nutritional value is another reason people choose a vegetarian diet.

Dr. Glenda Woscyna, dietician at the UNO Medical Center, said, "A vegetarian diet is one of the healthiest diets. A vegetarian diet lacks the unneeded fats that are commonly found in a meat-eating diet."

A major misconception is that vegetarians do not get enough protein in their diet. "Of course, the more serious a person is about their vegetarian diet, the more careful they have to be about getting enough of the right nutrients. There are substitutes, but it is completely possible to get adequate nourishment through a vegetarian diet," continued Dr. Woscyna.

### Efficiency

Efficiency is another reason people choose to have a vegetarian diet. "The amount of resources it takes to feed ten vegetarians is the amount it takes to feed one meat eater," said Megan.

"That's a lot of food that is being conserved by non-meat eaters. The point is not that starving people from Third-World countries could be fed with the food that is being given to the livestock, but rather to make the most of our resources," continued Megan.

Animal rights is another reason, if not the main reason, why students are vegetarians. Willie proclaims that animals "aren't ours to eat. They have their own life and purpose, and they're not to be eaten by us. This is the main reason I am a vegan. I have been a member of PETA [People for Ethical Treatment of Animals] since 1989."

The organization PETA contributes greatly to the education of people about the unethical treatment of animals.

Scott Buchan, senior, whose vegetarian diet was inspired by PETA, said, "I saw some films about how livestock and poultry are raised. It made me sick. That's one reason I don't eat meat."

Scott noted that a vegetarian diet is not that hard to maintain. At first it was difficult to maintain because the meals had to be cooked separately.

Ann Rickerl, freshman, said that "it's not that hard to be a vegetarian in my family. Everybody in my family doesn't eat meat. Meals don't have to be cooked separately."

Willie resorts to many foreign foods in order to avoid meat. "Eating fast food is really difficult," he said.

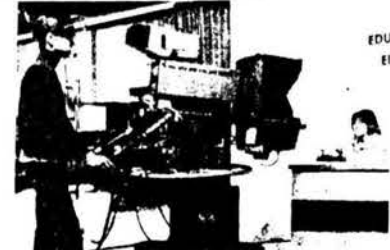
Willie reads the ingredients to the products he buys to see if there are any animal by-products in them. He has familiarized himself with the "ingredient jargon" that signifies animal products.

In response to Clint's question, if animal crackers don't contain any animal by-products, of course vegetarians eat them.

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## NEWS briefs

## Drama student awarded

Christina Belford, freshman, won a trophy in the Dramatic Comedy category for 7-9th graders at the Emmy Gifford Children's Theater's All Star Revue on February 8. Christina performed a dramatic monologue from the one act play, *Hattie's Dress*. She auditioned to be in the All Star Revue.



Christina Belford

## Centralites recognized

The African-American Academic Achievement Awards reception was held at the TAC building on February 2. Dr. G.E. Moller, principal said, "[The event] is to recognize African-Americans who are achieving well and have good work habits and attendance."

The students were chosen by counselors from each OPS school. Seventy-nine students were chosen in all; 15 were from Central.

These 15 include Christine Beckman, Maurice Clark, Tamarian Coleman, Lisa Lewis, Tamara Morrow, Sherry Scott, Michael Taylor, Kimberly Teel, Sharrone Travis, Cathy Ann Toney, Tristian Walker, Traci Warren, LaVonya Watson, Kimberly White, Cheryl Young, Sarina Young.

## Central produces winners

On Saturday, February 1, Central students participated in the First Annual Business/Marketing Competition Day at Northwest High School. Central came in first place with 1,070 points overall.

First place winners were Michelle Crowell, Jialun Dong, Thatcher Taylor, sophomores; Heidi Hausman and Doug Hegarty, seniors.

Second place winners were Jenny Hunt, Jamie Luckritz, Jill Oseas, sophomores; Jerri Anderson, Joe Armetta, Jessie Baines, Ryan Bayse, Lisa Harden, Jay Hoenshell, Rebecca Rabe, and Mario West, juniors; Rena Bates, Eric Behrens, Cindy Garner, Lucy Garza, Doug Hegarty, Christine Jackman and James Mullen, seniors.

Third place winners were Thatcher Taylor, sophomore; Meg Allen and Jessie Baines, juniors; and Michael Taylor, senior.

## Seniors are qualified

Seniors Emily Hool, Peter Thorson and Jessica Wenke are semifinalists in the Presidential Scholars Program. To be considered for this program, seniors checked a box on their SAT or ACT exam.

The seniors are among about 2,500 national semifinalists. In April, 121 will be named Presidential Scholars. The program provides recognition for scholarship, community activities and leadership.

## Students of the month

The students of the month for February are Chen Sheng, freshman, Scott Briganti, sophomore, LaTosha Dale, junior, and Chet Crinklaw, senior.

By Katie Cleary, Alex Cooper and Angela Splittgerber

## Black History month brings knowledge, problem

By Angela Splittgerber

"The only time that some people hear about black history is in February, during which we have the whole month to enlighten everyone who is willing to learn," said Brian Nelson, senior.

In celebration of Black History Month, Central is holding many assemblies and sponsoring many activities. Some activities included a special lunch on February 12, a Black T-Shirt Display on February 19, and a Black Art Display on February 26. Also planned for every Tuesday and Thursday in February were special auditorium homerooms where students gave their own performances. Tuesday homerooms included the Gospel Choir with a rendition by Shiela Morgan, senior, and an introductory rap about Martin Luther King, Jr. On Thursdays, students gave a slide presentation with information about African-American individuals and their accomplishments. Mrs. Bernice Nared, assistant principal, and Mrs. Faye Johnson, guidance counselor, are the coordinators of Central's Black History Month celebration.

Junior Karen Williams said, "I think that the homerooms are a very good idea. I really enjoyed the Tuesday homeroom with all the singing."

The main program on Wednesday, February 5, consisted of two sessions. The first session for seniors and juniors began 8th hour, and the second session for sophomores and freshmen began 9th hour. Two sessions were necessary because the whole student body cannot fit into the auditorium at one time. By holding separate programs, Central hoped to avoid complaints of people walking out or not being able to hear, according to Mrs. Nared.

A Black History Month Committee made the decision of how to celebrate Black History Month this year. Mrs. Nared said, "There will be a faction of African-Americans that wanted a student production versus anything else." She went on to say that the committee tried to be "sensitive" when making their decision, so that students would not feel that anything was being "rammed down their throat."

The main program featured Center Stage Production performing *Do Lord Remember Me*, which consisted of the stories of slaves. "The show kept people's attention because

of its diversity; it was the quietest the auditorium has ever been," said Teresa Hernandez, junior. Freshman Harmony McDaniel said, "I thought it was a s educational because being Native American, I can relate to the stories because many Native Americans were caught as slaves."

"It was a good play and we thank the acting company, but play just wasn't timed right," said Brian. "We need to show aspects of African-American history, not just a particular. We need to see the whole chapter, not just a chapter." He said that the use of the word "nigger" was still offensive to him because it is still a derogatory word. "No one wants to be a dumb fool; it stems from a lack of knowledge about young people," he added.

Sophomore Michelle Chandler said, "Central's programs are a good way to get people involved without forcing them to be involved. Mrs. Nared agrees, "We want to integrate, not segregate."



Born a slave... A performer at the February 5 presentation illustrates slave frustration.

## Staff and students encourage peers with S.M.I.L.E.'s

By Laura M. Dunham

"The acronym S.M.I.L.E. stands for "Special Messages Inspiring Lasting Encouragement." It is a special note sent out by the Central High Counseling Department to encourage, support and acknowledge the positive efforts of staff and students," said Ms. Sharie Jorgensen, Central's newest addition to the counseling staff.

Any staff member or student may notify the Counseling Center by completing a "SUGGESTION" form found by the mailboxes in the main office or in Room 129. The person's name and description of why the S.M.I.L.E. should be given to the person should be included on the form. A drop-off box will be placed in the office above the mailboxes. Students may take their recommendations directly to the counseling center. The individual's counselor will fill out the S.M.I.L.E. and have it delivered.

Ms. Jorgensen developed the idea from her own use of "warm fuzzies" at Bryan Jr. High and at Central. Her students, A and D-G (with the exception of seniors) have mixed feelings about her little pick-me-ups. "I think it's nice, I kind of feel like I am in first grade," said Judy Engler, junior. "Although not always willing to admit it, kids like to be recognized," said Mrs. Sharon Clipperly, counselor.

Plans are being considered to publish S.M.I.L.E. forms for teachers to use as reinforcements for their own students. This would make self-esteem boosting a school-wide effort.

The design of the S.M.I.L.E. sheet was drawn by Devin Ferguson, senior. The design is a dental-perfect smile, with S.M.I.L.E. written across the bottom and is printed on the Central school color, purple.

## 36% make honor roll (continued from page one)

hard, it's a high honor," he says.

Nick Kammerer, junior, said that the new honor roll "will encourage students to work harder to bring their grades up to the highest potential GPA."

"It's nice because it allows more people to be on the honor roll that probably deserve it, and it's not fair that they miss it by .5 points," said Sarah Larkin, junior, "but I don't see the point of dividing it up."

One other difference about the honor roll is that it eliminated the Golden Eagle honor roll that Central had last year and previous years. The old Golden Eagle honor roll was based on total grade points and depended on the number of classes a student took.

Dr. Moller said that this honor roll was used during a time when students took

only four credit hours a day because the number of credit hours to graduate was so low. The old Golden Eagle honor roll "encouraged students to take more classes because long ago good students slid by," taking on the required amount of classes to graduate, said Dr. Moller.

The Golden Eagle was an incentive to take more classes and to make students "accept more challenges," Dr. Moller stated. Since then, however, the Board of Education has twice upped the number of credits needed to graduate.

"This meant that students had to take more credits whether they wanted to or not," said Dr. Moller. He said the Golden Eagle honor roll was not needed "because now students take six, seven or eight credits."

The honor rolls are posted outside the trophy case on the three sides of the sacred "C."

## Decathlon disappointed in fourth place

By Cindy Garner

Central's Academic Decathlon team finished a close fourth at the state competition last Friday and Saturday, at UNO. Only two correct answers separated the team from the third place winner, Creighton Prep. Other than in 1990 and this year, Central's Decathlon team has never failed to take first place at state.

Pete Thorson, senior team member, gave some explanation for the team's standing. "We didn't have the fire in our bellies that [the team] had last year, trying to win back the title after losing it in 1990," he said. He also mentioned that "inexperience" was a factor; none of this team's members had competed in the competition before.

Mindy Drake, junior, says she will be on the team again next year. Her goal for next year's team is to take back the state trophy. She plans to "start studying earlier, even this summer," she said.

Mrs. Dee Kovarik, the team's coach, is meeting with Dr. Moller to discuss the

possibility of adding a class specifically study Decathlon topics. Such classes were offered at both Papillion-LaVista and North High Schools, first and second place winners.

Central's team won a total of 10 medals: Honors: Mary Campbell (11); bronze: essay, interview, fine arts; Mindy Drake (11); gold: highest individual score for the team, silver: math; Angel Hernandez (12); bronze: language and literature; Nikki Engelke, alternate, (12); gold: hard sciences, silver: social sciences, bronze: humanities.

Scholastic: Cindy Garner (12); silver: social science, bronze: fine arts; Michelle Rolleigh (11); silver: science, fine arts; bronze: math; Pete Thorson (12); gold: science, fine arts, language and literature; silver: social science, overall Scholastic level; Shannon Kopf, alternate, (12); gold: hard sciences, social sciences, bronze: humanities.

Varsity: Sarah Moss (11); bronze: language and literature.

# Pre-testing classes benefit students?

**Todd Reiser**

college begins to lurk in the minds of high school students. Entrance exams add to the stress on students. One approach many students seem to take is the pre-preparation classes which are offered throughout the city. Two questions may arise from this approach: Which class should I take, and which class will be the most beneficial to me?

There are a variety of classes in the Omaha-Metro area which offer preparatory curriculums for the SAT and ACT. These classes range in depth and cost.

According to Dr. Stan Maliszewski, director of gifted education, OPS offers a great test-preparation class at a minimal cost. Dr. Maliszewski said that for the first time this year these classes will be offered during the school year as a "mini" test class. These classes will be offered as a way to lessen the stress on a student and allow for greater concentration on the test," Dr. Maliszewski said. The class will be offered for a \$15 fee. There are asking for the \$15, but fee waivers will be available, so no students will be left out.

The class will be offered in three, one-hour sessions from 6:30 to 7:30 for three nights. According to Dr. Maliszewski, the class will offer strategy and techniques for success. Teachers include mainly department heads and teachers.

OPS also offers a series of classes during the summer. The classes are offered for \$50 and are taught by OPS teachers. This gives seniors a chance to brush up before the tests, according to Dr. Maliszewski.

Heather Holland, senior, took the summer SAT classes. She said that the class was not as beneficial as she thought it would be, and she was rather disappointed in the effects of the class.

There are other alternatives for students as far as test preparation classes. Many firms and private organizations give test classes as well. Stanley Kaplan offers a test class which is very strenuous and requires more work than OPS classes, according to Dr. Maliszewski.

The Kaplan classes cost \$565 for a seven-session, three-hour each period on the SAT and \$345 for a equal session on the ACT.

Another place in which test classes are offered is Metro Tech Community College, where the class is offered like a college class, with a charge of \$19.50 per credit hour.

This class is mainly computer oriented, according to Dr. Maliszewski, and is only offered at the Fort Omaha campus. The Urban League also offers a class on these tests, which is free of charge. The class is limited to 50 entries.

One other possibility for classes is a private teacher, usually a college student. Adam Yale, junior, said that he took a class given by Adam Zwieback, a college student from Omaha who

attended Princeton University and now attends the University of California at San Diego. The class was very intense, and lasted for five weeks, every Saturday and Sunday for three hours. The class was also quite expensive.

There are different opinions on the effectiveness of these classes. According to Dr. Maliszewski, the class is designed to teach familiarity, comfort, time management and test strategy.

"There is no way to significantly increase the amount of knowledge a student can use for the test. The best learning for the test is done from kindergarten to the senior year," he said. "If the student had a good primary and secondary education, he/she will probably do well on the test."

Dr. Maliszewski also said that students who are bad test-takers will usually do better on the tests if they take a pre-test class. He commented that most students who are good test takers will not show drastic increases because of the class.

According to Adam, his class did not increase his scores by a large amount. Adam said that his scores went up, but he feels that the class was not the real reason.

"The class made me concentrate more on the test, and it was my concentration that brought up my scores." Heather said that the class was excessively boring and that her scores were not drastically affected. Lisa Gomez, senior, remarked that the class was "terrible" and definitely not worth the money.

## NEWS briefs

### CHS Singers chosen

The 1992-93 Central High School Singers have been chosen. The sopranos are sophomores Christyn Sheriff, Ali McLarny, Amy Barnhard and juniors Marie Runyon, Melissa Lem, and April Hartman. The altos are sophomore Kris Miltner and juniors Wendy Revers, Ann Pelan, Emily Moore, Anissa Lennox and Angle Jennings. Tenors are sophomores Josh Perilo and Brian Kiel and juniors Joe Agosta, Damon Stevenson, Rodger Peek and Nathan Weidgrafe. Basses are sophomore Aaron Tye and juniors Kevin Cody, Brandon Bowlby, Jeff Berg, John Wendt and Dan Bagley.

### Students excel in history

Rena Bates, Sarah Briggs, Maurice Clark, Lacey Ruffin, Sharonne Travis and LaVonya Watson, seniors, participated in the Smiles Idea Black History Showdown sponsored by Martin Luther King Day Inc. in Dubuque, Iowa, February 13 and 14. The contest was held in the form of a TV game show to be aired on Iowa public TV later this year. Students were quizzed from information about black history studied prior to the contest. Central's team ranked in the top five out of 12 teams that participated in the event.

### DECA hosts speakers

National DECA week, held February 9-16, was sponsored by Marketing and DECA students. As a part of Central's marketing speaker series, students

had the opportunity to listen to Mr. James Beatty and/or Mr. Jerry Cederblom. Mr. Beatty's presentation, "Opportunity and You," focused on self-control,



awareness, Mr. Beatty motivation and projection. Mr. Beatty was formerly the Marketing Manager for Northwestern Bell and currently operates his own business, National Consulting Systems.

### Centralites receive honor

Seniors Emily Hool, Peter Thorson and Jessica Wenke are semifinalists in the Presidential Scholars Program. To be considered for this program, seniors checked a box on their SAT or ACT exam.

The seniors are among about 2,500 national semifinalists. In late March, 500 finalists will be chosen, and in April, 121 will be named Presidential Scholars. The program, begun in 1964, provides recognition for scholarship, community activities and leadership, but there is no monetary award.

### Cultural fair to be held

The foreign language/art culture fair will be held on March 3 in the courtyard. The fair will include all foreign languages as well as the art department. Activities will include entertainment such as music, dance and skits, living pictures, which is students dressing in the costumes of an art masterpiece and assuming the pose of the picture, jugglers and mimes. International foods will be provided for the students to sample. Central's art department as well as Howard Kennedy's will provide student art to be displayed. Students will also recite poetry and paint murals.

By Cindy Garner, Diana Konyek, Alexis Richards and LaVonya Watson

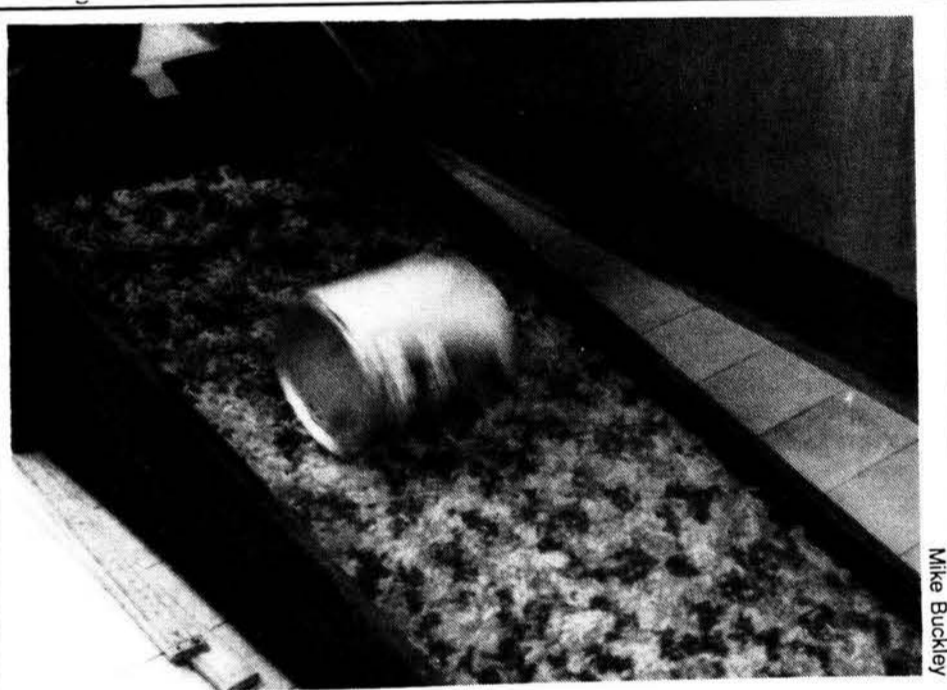
## Give blood

**Alex Cooper**



The Student Council will be sponsoring the bloodmobile on March 11. Maggie Boyle, senior and president of Student Council, urges students who are eligible to participate. She said, "There is always a need for blood and it's a good thing to do."

Students must be 17-years-old, weigh at least 110 pounds, and have parent permission to donate blood. The Bloodmobile will be outside Central on side three periods 1-8. Students will be released from study hall to go to the Bloodmobile. Student Council members will come around to homerooms this week to give students more information.



Mike Buckley

**Rollin', rollin', rollin'...** February 14, 1992, the Second Great Canned Food Race was held. The Food Race was the brain child of teacher Frank Marsh and is held in the Central High first year Physics classes. Each student enters cans into the race. The cans are rolled down a ramp, designed for the race, and the distance the can rolls is measured. The winners of the races are given extra credit points in the class. After the race all the cans will be donated to an area food bank.

## Terry proposal to curb Dodge cruising

**Christopher Thilgen**

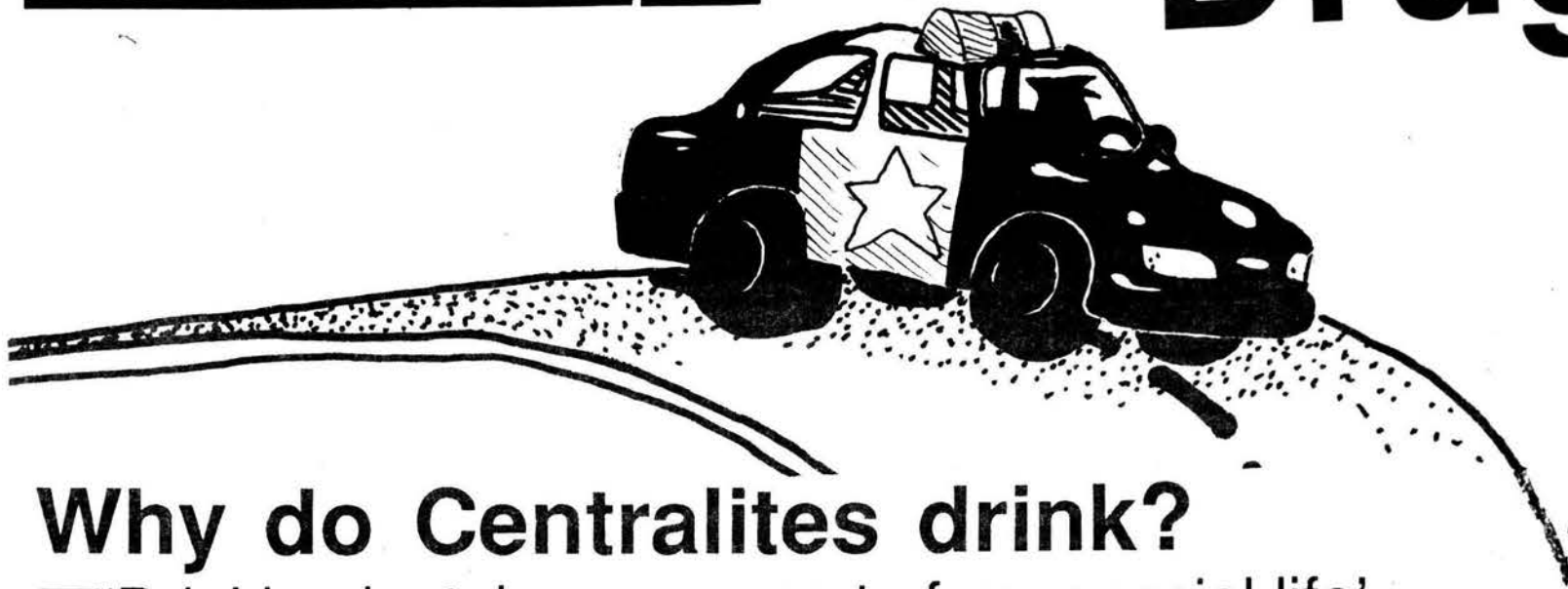
City councilman Lee Terry has proposed a "no cruising ordinance" for Dodge Street. The ordinance would affect the areas of Dodge Street between 69 and 90th between the hours of 9 p.m. and 6 a.m. If a driver is observed to pass the same spot three times within two hours, he will be ticketed. The penalties are 0 - \$500 and 0 - 6 months in jail. Mr. Terry said that the average ticket will be \$100. Mr. Terry said this measure is necessary to eliminate the congestion currently found at turnaround areas such as

70th and Dodge. Mr Terry said that this area became the "new" turnaround spot last summer. "The line of turning traffic became focused in one place [70th & Dodge] and caused a gridlock. The situation was running Perkins and The Bombay Bicycle Club out of business," he said. According to Mr. Terry the cruising ordinance is the solution. He said that the ordinance is modeled after a similar program in Springfield, Missouri. According to Mr. Terry, the Missouri ordinance has eliminated cruising. He feels that the same thing can be accomplished in Omaha.

Mr. Terry said that cruising checkpoints would be set up on certain stretches of road. The checkpoints would record the license plates and the time of the people turning around on a log sheet. If a particular license returns three times within a two-hour period, the driver will be ticketed. When asked if the officers assigned to this duty could be doing something more important, Mr. Terry said, "We will use the existing officers to set up the checkpoints and issue the tickets." According to Mr. Terry most of the public is unaware that 12 officers are assigned to Dodge Street every weekend night. He said that they are

there to issue "nuisance tickets." He explained that these would be tickets for tinted windows, improper licensing and other minor offenses. According to Mr. Terry these officers do nothing but traffic. They will not respond to other police calls unless an officer is in distress. "The officers would sit at the turnaround point and take down license numbers. When the drivers come back a third time [within a two hour period], the officers will issue a ticket," Mr Terry said. If the ordinance is proposed to the council on March 3, it will then be opened to public hearings on the 17th.

# Drugs



## Why do Centralites drink?

■ 'Drinking just becomes part of your social life'

By Josh Cooper

Individuals identified by first name only represent anonymous Central students in this story.

"I've been buying [alcohol] since I was thirteen. Yesterday, I found an I.D. that looks just like a girl I know. I'm selling it to her for 15 dollars. I used to go out with a couple guys [on the weekends]. One guy would drive [drunk], one would say 'stay in the middle of the road' and the other would puke out the window."

These comments made by Jack, a junior at Central, help to uncover the drinking problem that plagues a number of Centralites. The problem is drinking.

"My friends drink, but none of them take each other's keys. One of my friends drove drunk. Accidents don't seem to bother or affect anybody. People don't think anything will happen to them," said Nicole Blizek, a sophomore. She added that few of her friends can drive because they are sophomores.

Jack agreed that many people continue to drive drunk and said, "Everyone that got an MIP (Minor in Possession) last weekend is going to drink again this weekend."

"It's unreal how many people come to basketball games drunk," he added.

Obtaining alcohol is not a problem, according to Centralites. "If you want it [alcohol] bad enough you can get it," said

Jack. He said that North Omaha is the easiest area to buy in. "The farther north you go, the easier it is to buy," he said.

"A lot of people will go to a convenient store and say 'I don't have my I.D. but my name is in the black book.'" According to Jack, if the person behind the counter finds the name that is given by the teen buyer in the book "you can buy." He added, "You just have to walk in and look confident."

Some Centralites question the motives and reasons that teens have for drinking alcohol. "I don't see any advantages to drinking as opposed to not. I don't think it affects my status among friends, and if it does it shouldn't," said Jeff Darst, sophomore.

Sam, a senior, said, "I don't understand how anything that distorts your senses can be beneficial to you. Losing touch with reality is the antithesis to life. I don't have to justify why I don't drink."

He added that "most people don't even like the taste. If you need that to feel good, you need a lot more than that. There are too many other ways to reach higher heights without using substances."

Reasons Centralites gave for drinking varied from relieving stress to a mellowing effect to an extreme effect including aggression. "People drink because they think it relieves stress. Everyone seems a lot nicer and lets their barriers down when they're drinking. It just mellows me out," said Jack.

"Drinking makes me violent and more aggressive," said Bill, a junior. "When you're drunk, you just don't care," he said. Bill said that he broke two people's noses within the last few months while under the influence of alcohol.

A senior said that people drink "to have fun and to try to fit in. Some people hate the taste of beer and just choke it down.

"Drinking just becomes part of your social life," he said.

"Teen-agers have a lot of problems with parents and bringing grades up so they drown their problems with drinking," said Donnie Barfield, junior.

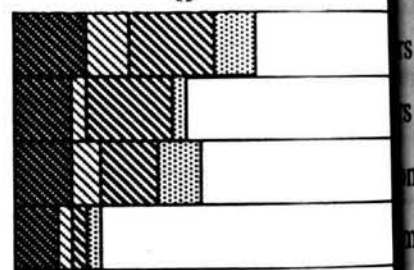
"It's not like there's anything else to do. People need to organize more events for kids. More concerts need to come to Omaha. People just want to see other people, and they want [to meet at] a place that's not the same over and over again," said Levoin Nelson, junior.

According to some Central students, adolescents take their first sip of alcohol before they are in high school. "Younger kids don't have the slightest idea why they do it [drink]; they just want to be cool. Eleven and twelve-year-olds get someone they know to buy for them. They could just get high on drugs. I'd rather see the kids drink wine coolers than use coke [cocaine]," said Donnie.

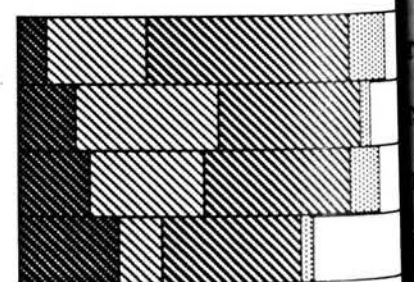
"Kids will drink in their cars and cops will shine flashlights in their cars and make them pour it [alcohol] out. But kids just go and get more," he said.

## Drug Use

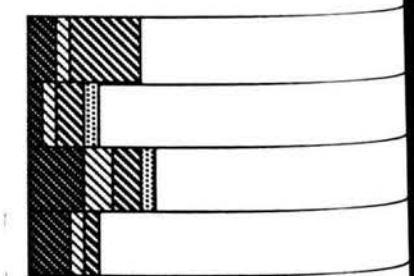
### Marijuana



### Alcohol



### LSD



■ Only Once ■ Once A Week ■ More Than Once A Week  
Total Polled = Seniors(177) Junior

## Stampede Omaha addresses drinking by minors Omaha looks for solutions to abuse

By Sean Chapman and Josh Cooper

The fact that many teens consume alcohol is not a big surprise to most people. A Central committee and Stampede Omaha, a new city-wide campaign, are addressing the drinking problem, and both are attempting to combat the illegal use of alcohol by minors.

"A lot of people aren't taking the needed action to prevent minors from using alcohol," said Mr. Kevin Moran, counselor. "Even if your kids don't drink, they could be hit by some one who does."

Mr. Moran is one of the members of a committee at Central to promote alcohol awareness and inform students and parents about the dangers. The committee consists of Mr. Dick Jones, administrator, Mr. Al Roeder, science teacher, Mrs. Gerry Zerse, counselor and two parents.

According to Mr. Moran the committee frequently meets with parents at open houses. "We try to provide information for the parents."

The committee went to Wisconsin last year to draw up an action plan of things needed to be done. "While we were there we did some surveying of students to determine the percent of students using alcohol and how much," said Mr. Moran.

"It's ironic; when we ask anonymously about alcohol use the percent is always higher than what the parents think," said Mr. Moran.

Mr. Moran said, "Part of the problem is parents being unaware of their children drinking, but the biggest problem is denial, by the parents and the student."

"Adolescents have a sense of immortality. When you're young, you always think that it isn't going to happen to you, he said.

Stampede Omaha: A Century Coalition was formed and introduced to Omaha last November with the support of The Century Council, a new, national nonprofit organization dedicated to combatting alcohol abuse. "The mission is to serve as a community-owned coalition formed to curb alcohol use by minors," said Mr. Ronald Abdouch, the local coordinator for Stampede Omaha and Director of Omaha's Youth Volunteer Corps.

The local board for Stampede Omaha is made up of wine/liquor owners, law enforcement, community leaders, prevention agency members and the heads of some corporations. Stroh's

Beer is the only beer company that has signed on to the council and met the specific code of advertising ethics that do not target minors.

"Stampede Omaha is conducting a study with UNO to see how teens are obtaining alcohol and is developing a code of operation to get some type of universality with regard to retailers selling [of alcohol]," said Mr. Abdouch. The coalition is also working on a new program that is "reaching out to elementary school children," he said, and is "proposing a St. Patrick's Day program."

Presently, "Stampede Omaha is looking at doing a public awareness campaign to coincide with post-prom and graduation," said Mr. Abdouch.

The Century Council is mounting a major effort to distribute posters, buttons and stickers to local retailers warning minors against attempting to purchase alcoholic beverages.

According to Lieutenant Thorson, Omaha Police officer, the police are making an overall effort in the city to prevent and inform the community about minors using alcohol. "We coordinate informants around the city in an attempt to arrest and locate minors with alcohol.

We always make an effort to find places where minors congregate and drink," he said.

Lieutenant Thorson said, "Any alcohol sold to a minor is a problem." According to him the police are making an attempt to work with the liquor industry to stop the sales of alcohol to minors. "We are working to educate liquor retailers. We organized a program for retailers to enable them to detect fake I.D.'s. The State Patrol works very close with us on these matters."

In order to deter minors from drinking the police hand out minors in possession tickets which, according to Thorson, "do act as a good deterrent. I think the people are becoming more aware of the problem."

According to Lt. Thorson, peer pressure seems to be the cause of the problem. "There is just a great desire among minors today to drink. They just have to realize that alcohol is illegal for a good reason that the laws are made to protect them."

"We provide counseling for people that have drug and alcohol problems through lectures, workshops and by working closely with counselors, schools and churches," said Mrs. Nelum, clinic director.



## LSD, marijuana affecting students' lives

By Dawn Randall

Individuals identified by first name only represent anonymous Central students in this story.

The introductory drug for teens is alcohol, the major drug of choice is marijuana and in the past couple of years there has been a resurgence of LSD use.

said Dennis Stubbs, a counselor in the addiction recovery system at Saint Joseph Center for Mental Health.

"Drugs cause a lot of decrease in responsibility. People spend money, time and relationships to acquire drugs. Good relationships and financial responsibility are put on the back burner," said Barbara Krause, intake and outpatient counselor at the Immanuel Medical Center.

"Memory loss, short attention span and low motivation are the side effects we see here," said Patti Jaynes, certified drug and alcohol counselor at Operation Bridge.

Although researchers are still fairly unsure about all the definite effects of both marijuana and LSD, "the hard effects of marijuana and LSD on the body can cause brain damage and/or damage of the central nervous system," said Ms. Krause.

New studies show that marijuana has more dangerous cancer-causing chemicals than tobacco.

"There are very few physical side effects seen in marijuana and LSD users, but there are significant mental effects," said Mr. Stubbs. "Most have problems keeping their thoughts straight. Many have had previous problems with depression due to their drug use." Effects of LSD after use are unpredictable. It may cause brain damage, but it is impossible to determine if a given person will have temporary or long-term effects or any effects at all after use of the drug.

Many drug users know what effects their drug use has on their bodies.

"It doesn't stop me, though," said Sean, senior.

"There are adverse reactions in everything you do to your body. Sports are like that, too," said Tom, senior.

"Kids have pulled away emotionally from their family. Most are not even living with their family, but if they are, they aren't going by the rules," said Mr. Stubbs.

"People no longer know how to express or work through their feelings," said Ms. Krause.

"They keep using so they don't have to deal with their feelings. It's a sort of self-medication," Mr. Stubbs commented.

Ms. Krause added that people that use

drugs have very low self-esteem. "They isolate themselves, either because they don't feel good about themselves or because they don't want to share their drugs," she added.

Ms. Krause commented that knowing why a person starts using drugs is not as important as solving the conflict that assisted them in starting.

"Most teens experiment," said Mr. Stubbs. "The difference is in those that continue use."

Ms. Krause disagreed. "Usually, younger people have something else going on, like adolescent depression."

"I wanted to see [inanimate] things move," said Ray, senior and former drug user, about why he started using drugs. "Then you start getting caught up with other people that do it, and you develop a cool lifestyle."

"I saw it as a passage to high school. LSD was all hyped up," said Joe, junior. "I feel that anyone who is interested has the right to experiment as long as no one else is directly affected," he said.

"It was the wonder, the curiosity of what they do," Bob, junior, said.

"At the time, it was the thing to do, so I tried it," said Marie, senior.

"It gives you a new perspective on life. You enjoy things you'd never enjoy without drugs," said Tom.

"I liked the feeling. It made me feel happy and easily excitable," said Joe.

"I see things that I can't sober, but want to," said Bob.

"It took my attention to the pinnacle of thought. It pinpointed all my thoughts on one thing. If you wanted to draw a picture, that is where all of your attention was. There aren't any distractions," remarked Ray.

The high is not always a positive one. "A friend of mine almost died. His heart stopped, he wasn't breathing, and he fell over," Bob remembered.

"I stopped moving and lost desire to move. I could think normal, just not move normal. I did nothing for one day," said Joe.

"[Marijuana] made me sick, so I don't do it anymore," Marie continued. "I've seen other people on [LSD] and it doesn't look like it has any advantages at all."

"I would not tell someone to do acid. I've seen too many people freak out. I won't continue to do it," said Bob.

"I stopped because I was going crazy," said Ann, junior and former drug user.

"It scared me because I couldn't control my movement," said Joe regarding why he stopped using.

"I need to look back at everything that I've experienced and decide if I'll ever do it again," said Ray.

William, junior, a current drug user, said that his older brother turned him on to drugs.

"Alcoholism and drugs are family problems," said Ms. Krause.

"The families are very involved," continued Ms. Jaynes.

Many times, a family involved in drugs or with a drug addict contains relationships that are broken down. "We try to re-establish the relationships within the family so there is not a relapse," said Ms. Jaynes.

"Drugs change people. And when a person in a family changes, the whole unit changes," said Ms. Krause. Sometimes relationships in families are never regained because either the family or the individual is unwilling to change, she said.

Tom and Sean agreed that their family relations have not changed since their drug use began.

"I just don't respect my family anymore. My family relations have changed since I was 10, but that doesn't mean it was the drugs that changed everything," said Ray.

My brother uses drugs and it totally disrupts the family. He's totally oblivious to everything around him, and he's really self-centered. [His drug use] has ruined my parents. He was really bright in school, and the drugs have taken away his will to succeed and achieve," said Karen, senior.

"I know a lot of people who were really bright. They get so wrapped up in drugs and partying that they forget about school and drop out. They say it's not a problem, but they'll run to wherever they can to do their drugs," said Alice, senior.

"They totally changed. They give up on everything except their drugs, which they don't think are a problem," said Roy, senior.

"I haven't noticed a change. My friend has a bad home-life and dropped out of school before he even started doing drugs," said Steve, senior.

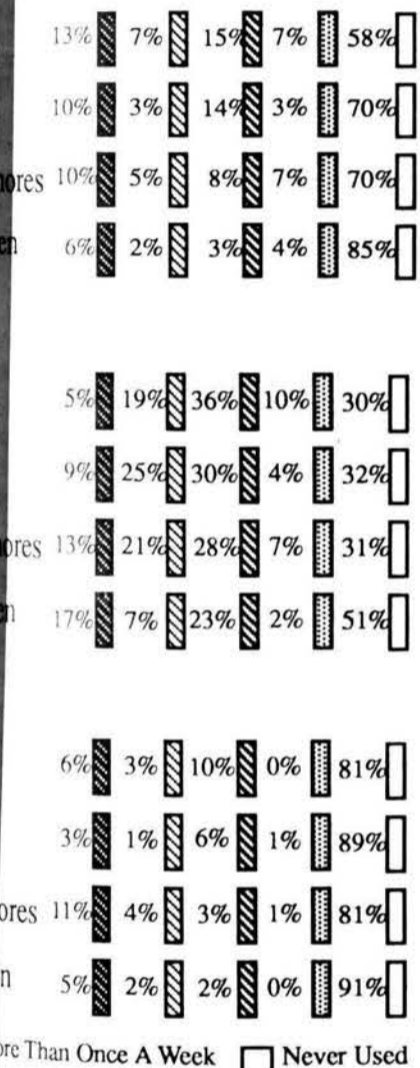
Mr. Stubbs commented that many drug users see a downturn in academics and may drop out of school or sports.

"If anything, [drugs] improved them. Personal involvement in classes and applying yourself gets grades, not drugs," said Tom.

"[Drugs] kill motivation. My GPA probably could be somewhat higher," said Sean.

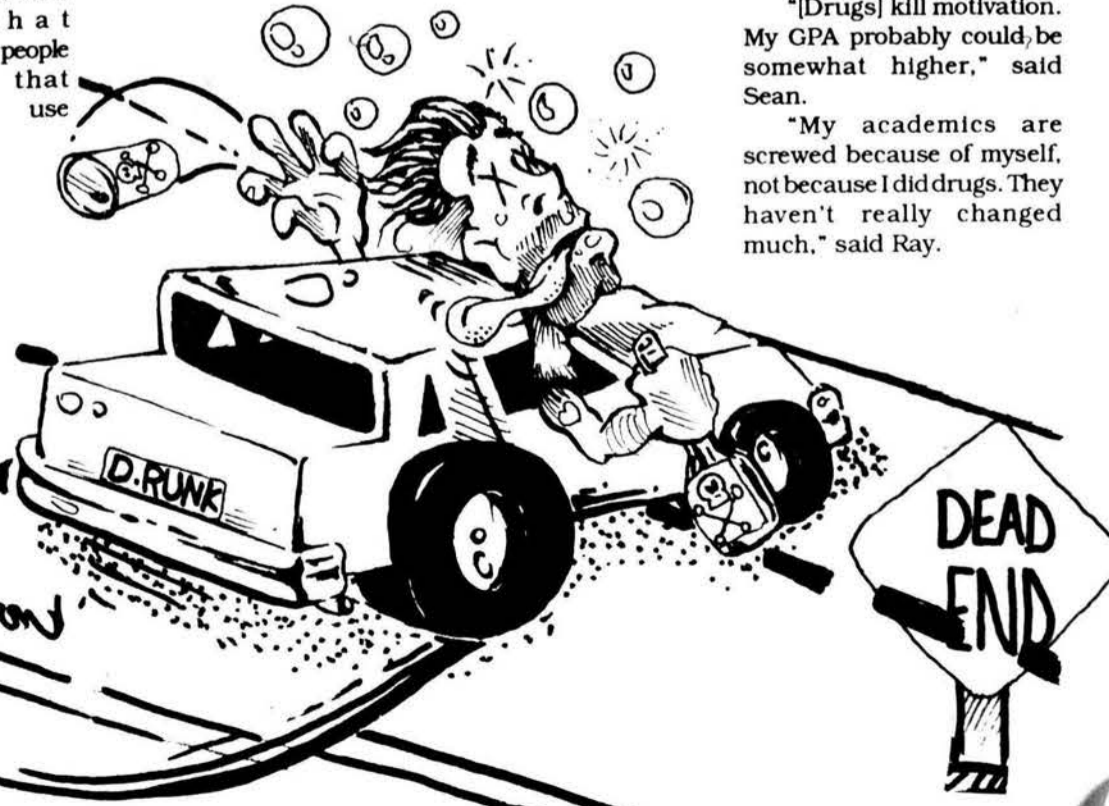
"My academics are screwed because of myself, not because I did drugs. They haven't really changed much," said Ray.

### Central



Graph By Christopher Thilgen

"I people y, in families. the problem to improve tions with teens schools, family It's important elop alternatives to piness and fun," said blem that we've always st because we've always blem doesn't mean that not work harder at solution. If we could one person and prevent stroying his life, or getting gh the use of alcohol. efforts have been said Mr. Moran.



# Student hobby gains recognition

By Sean Chapman

"They make a great conversation piece," said Carrie Jacobson, sophomore, about her hand made jewelry.

Carrie spends a lot of her free time working on her hobby, making earrings. She first discovered her talent when she was working as a volunteer at the Omaha Children's Museum.

"I first learned how to make earrings at one of the workshops that I took part in at the Museum," said Carrie. "We learned how to make earrings form watercolor paper."

Carrie works with three different types of materials to make her earrings. She started using the watercolor paper and then added plastic and clay.

According to Carrie, the watercolor paper earrings can take a longer time to make. "It depends on how intricate I make the earrings and drying time has to be taken into account," said Carrie.

"People tend to worry about how strong the paper earring will be, but I still have my original pair which are in good condition," she said.

According to Carrie, the watercolor paper is very thick. "It is surprisingly

durable and light weight."

The plastic earrings, according to Carrie, seem to be the easiest to construct. "I cut a shape or design out of the plastic and then place it in the microwave for about a minute and a half." "It's all done at home," she said. Carrie is even able to make the clay earrings at home by baking them in the toaster.

"There is not a lot of expense involved in my hobby," said Carrie. "At first it costs some money, but the materials last a long time, so in the long run it's cheaper."

No two pairs of her earrings are alike. "I have a policy which is not to duplicate any pair of earrings," said Carrie. "I do have a certain style, and I may use the same pattern for some, but no two are ever the same."

Carrie has participated in two art fairs, in which she was able to sell some of her creations. Her various works have also appeared in New Realities, an Omaha store in the old market.

Carrie estimates that she has made a little over 100 earrings. She usually keeps about 25 earrings in stock to prepare for the fairs.

According to Carrie she also uses a few



Looking for a new style... Carrie Jacobson makes earrings for future sales.

earrings that her friends have made in the fairs. "It adds to the diversity and styles that we have to sell at the fair," she said.

"I don't sell any pair of earrings under the price of five dollars, and there is no pair that is over seven dollars," said Carrie. "The cost just depends on the amount of

work that went into the making of it." She also sells pin and earring sets that sell from 11 to 14 dollars.

According to Carrie, she does most of her sales out of her house. "I can get more money out of it that way," she said.

"I like making money off of it; it's easy and a lot of fun."

# Scholastics, a chance for artists to compete

By Andrea Davis

"Scholastics is something that I've been working towards ever since I was a sophomore," said Sondra Springer, senior.

Scholastics is an annual art contest sponsored by a company that makes educational materials for students grades 7-12. Each art teacher selects the strongest works that his/her students have made in the last two semesters. "A lot of excellent work doesn't get selected since each teacher only gets to enter 26 pieces," said Mr. Larry Andrews, Art department head.

The art will be sent to be judged against the entries from Nebraska, and the strongest pieces in each division will receive gold keys and go on to New York

to be judged at the national competition.

The works are divided into pencil, pastel, acrylic, watercolor, ink, mixed media and the three-dimensional arts. "We have had more winning scholastic art entries than anyone in the state for the last five years," said Mr. Andrews. Last year, Central students won three of the five Hallmark awards for

this region.

Another division for Scholastics is the portfolios. A

drawings, by a single student. The Central art department has ten portfolios going to scholastics



Jennifer Dreihelbis

Undoubtedly a winner... A piece by Devin Ferguson, senior.

portfolio is an entry of eight pieces, three of which must be

portfolios to compete nationally

for scholarships to art schools and colleges. "Doing this

portfolio was very stressful. I panicked," said Sondra. "I spent a lot of nights awake."

The submitted art will be exhibited at the Hillmer Gallery at the College of St. Mary, where they will be judged. "I think this competition gives an opportunity to have her work displayed publicly," said Kevin Vanourney, senior. In addition to having their work displayed, winning awards in Scholastics can be put on students' applications for art schools. "National awards are a very prestigious part of college applications," said Mr. Andrews. "A gold key or honorable mention is really an honor."

## Central art fairs well

By Thad Domina

Sixty-four works of art by Central students and eight student portfolios won Scholastic Art Awards this year. Of these victories, 24 pieces of art by Central students were selected as Gold Key winners and 40 were selected as Honorable Mention winners. Many of these works will be exhibited in an art show in New York City sponsored by the Scholastic Corporation.

The students competed in several categories including painting, drawing, printmaking, sculpture, pottery, and graphic design. The art teachers choose the works entered into the competition from the previous year's second semester classwork and the work of the competition year's first semester work. Each teacher is allowed to enter 26 works in the competition.

The portfolios prepared by Rachel Tomlinson, Megan Weeks, Kevin Vanourney, Menice Blackman, Sandra Springer, Devin Ferguson, Tony Torrez, and Mike Boyd, all Central seniors, will be shown in the New York City exhibition. According to Mr. Andrews, most of these students are planning on pursuing a career in art.

The students who won Gold Keys are: Tony Torrez, Heather Schacht, Rachel Tomlinson, Genisa Zaremiski, Kevin Vanourney, Devin Ferguson, Mike Boyd, Melissa Chambers, Deb Uhl, Megan Weeks, Sondra Springer, Rosetta Scholar, Allison Fuchs, Jim Sanwick, Meghan Lewis, Lily Luong, and Jonathan Crawford.

Awards in photography were also won by Amber Wood, Chris Meyer, Molly Jarboe, and Timothy Galligher.

## Students' pottery competitive at Scholastics

By Laura M. Dunham

"Getting recognition for a piece is always flattering. Having someone notice the hard work you've put into a piece," said Molly Jarboe, junior. "Having my pot entered in Scholastics is a compliment in itself."

The Scholastics exhibition is a regional and national show that draws the attention of many artists and colleges in the United States. The show is opened to 7-12 grades and divided into two groups: Group I (grades 7, 8 and 9) and Group II (grades 10, 11 and 12). It is sponsored by the College of Saint Mary, and the actual show takes place on St. Mary's campus. The judges are regionally known and are influential artists and potters.

The pottery classes have spent all semester preparing for the Scholastics that will be exhibited February 15 to March 1. Works from this year and last year will be entered in the ceramics and sculpture categories. "I have 11 pieces entered in Scholastics. I entered my portfolio that has eight of my best selected artworks from a wide range of media, my Greek pot and my design project. It stresses me out just trying to get everything ready," explained Sondra Springer, senior. "It is very stressful to get five pieces ready, very stressful," agrees Jim Sanwick, junior.

Some of the pieces entered are the products of the pottery classes under the instruction of Mr. Larry Hausman, pottery teacher. "I was surprised that he picked my pot to enter; I didn't think that it was all that

great. Mr. Hausman supported me," said Carrie Corwin, senior.

Many students feel that their hours of hard work resulted in the best piece they could create. "My piece is a Greek pot with design; I worked very hard on making it," commented Roy Wolf, junior. "I worked for hours on my pot," said Meronne Polgi, junior. "My design is unique, so abstract I doubt anyone else could think of it."

"It would be nice to win a key," said Josh Babin, senior. Gold Keys will be awarded to the winners of the Scholastics program. Honorable mentions are also

awarded to the artists that are "best of show."

The Gold Key winners go to New York to compete with other national winners. Scholarships are awarded to the winners of the national competition. The scholarships given include: Strathmore Paper Company Scholarships and scholarships to selected art institutes that differ in value by each school.

Other students are doubtful. "If you enter a piece expecting to win everything, that's insane. You have to go into this like you're not going to win anything. I just hope to continue my

art education," advised Mike Boyd, senior.

The entries will be on exhibition at the College of St. Mary's from February 15 to March 1. Schools who have winners will be contacted and sent by mail their Gold Keys and Certificates of Merit. National winners will be notified in early May.

“ Getting recognition for a piece is always flattering. ”

—Molly Jarboe

”

# Walker brothers appear in television commercials

Sean Rourke

Most high school students never get a chance to star in TV commercials. But Tristian and Marcelles Walker, it's all part of the business.

Tristian, a senior, submitted his photo resume to the Talent Pool Talent Agency two years ago. Since then, he has done several commercials for local businesses. His younger brother, Marcelles, a sophomore, has only been in the Talent Pool for one year, but has been in various commercials.

"It pays pretty well," Marcelles said, "it's not easy." He says that the average shoot lasts anywhere from three to four hours. "I think that they are tedious and boring," said Tristian. "I sit around for five hours doing 22 takes of the same scene."

Because of the uncertainty of work, Tristian and Marcelles rely on other jobs for steady income. Tristian explained that "you can go six months

with five or six jobs and then go another six months without anything."

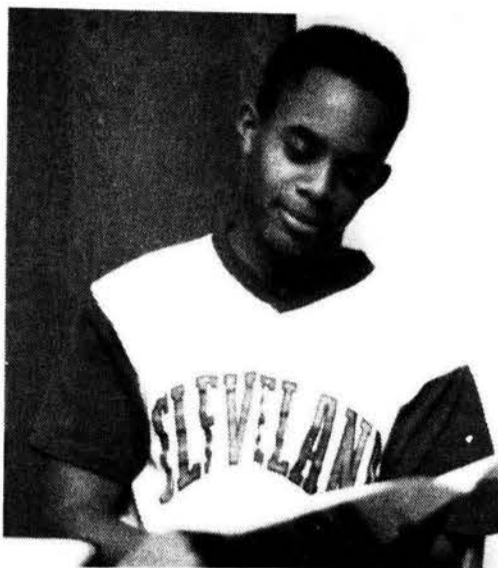
"It's a real sporadic type of job," commented Marcelles. Tristian also works at Valentino's, and Marcelles works at Fenwick's.

Both Tristian and Marcelles have done commercials that will be aired nationwide this summer. Tristian played a role in a Godfather's commercial, and Marcelles will appear in a hat ad that will air on MTV.

Besides the Godfather's commercial, Tristian has appeared in two Richman Gordman commercials that were broadcast last August and September, as well as TV ads for community colleges in both Texas and Florida.

Marcelles has worked on a 1/2 Price Store commercial, a video for drug-free youth which was shown at Burke and said he has done training commercials for private use on health eating.

According to Tristian, he and his brother are not the only ones in their



Rob Rouch

family who do television work. He commented that both his mother and his sister have appeared on TV as well.

"Both my mom and my sister have done two commercials for the 1/2 Price Store," Tristian said.

**Diligently studying...**Tristian Walker, senior, reviews a script for another commercial. Tristian and his brother Marcelles, sophomore, have both appeared in several commercials for local and national businesses. Tristian will appear in a Godfather's commercial this summer. Marcelles will appear on MTV in a hat ad.

# Central prepares for 78th consecutive Road Show

Alex Cooper

Central High School will present its 78th production of Road Show on February 28 and 29.

Mr. Larry Hausman, stage director at Central, said, "Road Show is unique because it is run by the kids for the kids." He said the students would feel fortunate that they were doing this production.

According to Mr. Wilger, the director of Road Show, there

and orchestra. He said the theme for Road Show is "A Night to Remember."

As far as practice goes, Mr. Wilger said, "We have a rotating schedule which means each act practices about twice a week." He said, "Starting two weeks before the show, each act will practice everyday."

Mr. Wilger said, "We tried to restrict the acts to high quality acts." He said, "There will be fewer acts this year." He expects the show to run two hours including a 15-minute intermission. "I feel like its going to be a high quality show," said Mr. Wilger.

Mr. Hausman said that the stage crew makes all of the sets and props for Road Show as they do for all other Central productions. He said everybody is important. Mr. Hausman said, "We believe that Road Show should be as professional as possible." He said, however, that people must keep in mind that the stage crew is made of students, not professionals, and mistakes do happen.

Brian Christiansen.

sophomore member of stagecrew, said, "Starting two weeks before Road Show, the stage crew will work for three hours each day."

Mr. Hausman said, "We make it so people enjoy it." He said the work that goes into Road Show is quite gratifying for both him and the students.

Mr. Hausman said, "Nothing about the show is really different this year." He said the audience can expect to see Chris Short's puppet act and

Sean Rourke's magic act again this year.

Matt Hovde, a Central senior who will be participating in Road Show for his third year, expects the show to be a "quality" show. When asked why he continues to participate in Road Show, Matt said, "It's the perfect opportunity to do things you've wanted to do but can't do in Central's plays or musicals." Matt encourages people to attend Road Show. He said this is "Central's top

production."

A matinee will be held for students on Wednesday the 26th, periods 1-4. Students may purchase tickets for Road Show for \$3 along with their student activity card. Tickets for the production on February 27-29 will cost \$4 for adults and \$3 for children 12 and under. The show starts at 7:30 p.m. each night. Tickets will be sold on the days of the show at the school store and at the door before the performance.

Road Show is unique because it is run by the kids for the kids.

—Mr. Hausman

quite a few vocals and dances in this year's Road Show. There are a total of 28 acts including separate performances by both the band

# Central Students perform Pandora to sold-out theater

By Karna Swanson

The setting: an abandoned subway station. The characters: homeless rejects of society. The musical: Pandora, written, composed and produced by Central senior, Shawn W. Lanz and junior Michelle Dowd.

Michelle and Shawn presented their musical in front of sold-out crowds January 31, February 1, 6, 7 and 8 at the Grande Olde Players Theater. "We even added an additional performance on Thursday [February 6] because we were totally sold out," said Michelle.

"We were really happy that we got a good reaction," said Shawn.

"A lot of people were surprised that high school students could produce something with that much impact. The reaction to the story itself was positive and people understood the message we were trying to convey," Shawn added.

Jess Wenke, senior, who played the part of Prudence, a wise 50-year-old homeless lady, said Pandora is "a story of the fears and troubles of the homeless as they face losing their home."

The musical also relates the hardships of living without a home. The inhabitants of Pandora 409 have a home, but it is not a real home with real security. They face the insecurity of having an uncertain future.

Pandora 409 is the name of the abandoned subway station which is inhabited by a community of homeless characters. They face the threat of eviction from the only home they have known by Police Chief Clayton, played by sophomore Aaron Tye.

Clayton wants to send the inhabitants of Pandora out on the street to get revenge for the death of his parents. A group of homeless people killed his parents a long time ago.

A crooked police captain, with ambitions of becoming chief, offers to help the homeless only to promote his own interests. He manages to get Clayton fired on grounds of mistreatment of the homeless but then fails to live up to his promise of saving Pandora.

"We even added an additional performance on Thursday because we were totally sold out."

—Michelle Dowd

The musical ends with the characters losing their home but gaining the strength to face the world. The end becomes a beginning; they start a new life with courage and hope.

The hope that inspires the characters to live on comes a large part from the story of Pandora's Box. Prudence tells the story in the musical with emphasis on hope being the only way to survive the daily grinds of life.

The cast, including 16 Central students, is very happy with the success of the musical. "It was really hard to put on a musical with a budget of zero, and it is not easy to be directed by friends," said Jessi Haubrich, senior.

"But the public was really responsive to the story and the music, and the cast was really happy about the performances being sold out," Jessi added.

Christi Klein, senior, said she was a little skeptical about the production. "Rehearsals were not going that well, and everybody was getting on everybody's nerves, but everything came together and turned out great."

Michelle Dowd expresses relief about the end of the production. "It was really fun, but it was a lot of work and took up a lot of my time. I'm kind of sad, but now I have time to do other things."

Michelle also said she and Shawn have plans for another musical. "We already have another idea, it's going to be totally different than Pandora. We want to do a murder mystery."

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By Sean Rourke

Rarely have I heard Liz laugh so hard. And rarely do I find myself laughing just as hard beside her. (Not counting, of course, the time when our editor suggested that we review *Grizzellip*, the *All-consuming Sloth of Cajun Country*.) Other than that, it was a first.

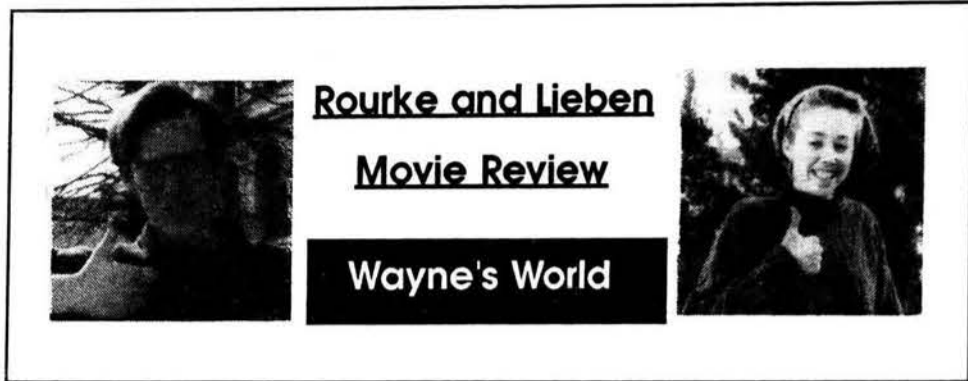
At any rate, *Wayne's World* is a kill. If you thought that Wayne and Garth were funny on *Saturday Night Live*, you're gonna yak your oats when you see this movie.

As you may have guessed, this is not just a big hour-and-a-half long episode of the *Wayne's World* public-access show;

“ If you thought that Wayne and Garth were funny on *Saturday Night Live*, you're gonna yak your oats when you see this movie. ”

It's an in-depth look into the lives of the men who make the program the epic it is.

Of course, the whole time the movie is in progress, Wayne and Garth are taking the camera away from the action and using it to explain their individual philosophies and point out the symbolic



connotations of the plot. It's a lot like *The Scarlet Letter*...Psyche!

The whole movie is so ridiculously chaotic, it's tough to know whether it's about the lives of Wayne and Garth, or if they just spontaneously decided to film a movie for no reason other than to make Liz choke on her licorice. Come to think of it, you don't even find out what it is until the end of the movie.

Several big-time stars work their way into the plot, though. Names like Rob Lowe, Al Bundy from *Married with Children*, his arch-holy evilness; Alice Cooper, as well as one of the most ominous bad-guys of last summer's movie season. You'll know who I'm talking about when you see him. (I personally freaked out, and it took Liz about three Twizzlers to calm herself down as well.)

All-in-all, it was viciously funny. Even if you're not a real big fan of Wayne and Garth, this is one of those movies you should see, just to say that you've seen it. I give it a thumbs-up.

By Liz Lieben

Are you familiar with the terms "shwing" or "Party on Garth! Party On Wayne!" or "snowed." If yes, then you are probably familiar with *Wayne's World*. If no, sit down and let me tell you about it.

*Wayne's World* is a stupid movie NOT. It is probably the most hilarious movie of this year. (Sean was laughing so hard that Twizzlers came out of his nose). Everyone in the theater was full of giggles and guffaws.

However, I feel this movie should be like a game board and have distinct age recommendations on its advertisements. I think that this movie is for ages 9-25. You don't need to be familiar with the *Saturday Night Live* sketch to have fun at this movie. However, I'm not sure that adults and sn all children would find this movie entertaining.

*Wayne's World* has a very simple plot: *Wayne's World*, the public access television show, is purchased by a big Chicago television station and the show

is exploited.

Mike Myers plays Wayne and is absolutely stupendous. He is the dumbest guy, but he is hilarious. We know sometimes the most stupid things are the funniest things.

Dana Carvey plays Garth, Wayne's best friend and chauffeur. Wayne and Garth actually leave Wayne's base to go cruising...in a Pacer... listening to the *Bohemian Rhapsody*. Queen.

Did you see *Opportunity Knocks* Dana Carvey? Do you remember the scene where Dana Carvey sings *Be Wild*? He also makes a singing performance in *Wayne's World* and it is entertaining.

Rob Lowe plays the part of the producer and he makes his appearance on screen in bed with a young lady (surprise, surprise). His performance is not Oscar-winning, but it is okay.

The great thing about this movie is that it features everyone's all-time favorites: *Laverne and Shirley*, *Alice Cooper* and *Scooby-Doo*, to name a few.

This movie is one of the better teen movies. There are the teen idol style, nauseatingly sweet love stories that make me gag. There are also the Bill and Ted Bogus movies that make me want to throw up and then there is *Wayne's World*. I definitely think is worth anybody's money for all the fun that you get.

I guarantee that you will like this movie. It is just laugh after laugh after laugh. The fun just keeps coming at you.

## Great achievements documented Museum teaches culture to community

By Karna Swanson

"Most people don't know that there were black cowboys and homesteaders, but there were actually many blacks who helped to settle Nebraska," said Mrs. Bertha Calloway, founder of the Great Plains Black Museum.

Mrs. Calloway founded the museum in 1976 because "most people don't know the history of the African-Americans; they think all African-Americans are from Africa, but I'm an African-American and I've lived in America all my life."

Mrs. Calloway often speaks to children's groups to tell them about the blacks and their contributions to history. "Blacks have a history too," she said.

The museum documents that history and the contributions of the blacks in many different areas with many artifacts and memorabilia, which is said to be the largest of its kind in the Midwest.

One level of the museum is devoted to the early black settlers of Nebraska. The exhibit looks a lot like any other of its kind; the only difference is that the homesteaders are black, not white.

The settlers of Nebraska, regardless of color, posed for the same pictures in front of the same sod houses and traveled in the same wagon trains. The exhibit also features the black cowboys of the day.

A time line on the wall outlines the activities of the black homesteaders. In 1804, a black man named York, a member of the Lewis and Clark expedition, became the first person to step into Nebraska. The time line also stated that in 1860, a group of blacks settled in Nebraska City.

A second exhibit in the museum emphasizes the accomplishments of many different black women. One item in the exhibit consists of pictures of the National Association of Colored Women. Another is a picture of Harriet Tubman, a main figure in the underground railroad, and the exhibit also includes an explanation of her life.

Other exhibits cover topics such as



Did you know there were black cowboys and homesteaders? If not, journey to the Great Plains Black Museum at 2413 Lake.

education, black firemen, Martin Luther King's march on Washington, the Ku Klux Klan lynchings, African heritage and black musicians.

The upper part of the building is a storage facility and a library. The library consists of many books, fiction and non-fiction, related to black history. The collection also consists of issues of *Ebony*, *Jet*, and the *Omaha Star*. The books are both for enjoyment and research.

The building itself is a historic artifact. It is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Thomas Kimball, a prominent architect at that time, built the building in 1906. It was owned by the Nebraska Telephone Company, then became the home for the first Urban League, and had many different uses before it became the Great Plains Black Museum in 1976.

The museum is dedicated to the memory of Father John P. Markoe of the

“ Other exhibits cover topics such as education, black firemen, Martin Luther King's march on Washington, the Ku Klux Klan lynchings, African heritage and black musicians. ”

Society of Jesus. A plaque hangs on the wall to commemorate the priest who

"daily pledged his life to helping blacks achieve equality."

Equality is what the museum teaches blacks to achieve. With the extensive documentation of great achievements by blacks, the history and heritage of African-Americans is presented on an equal level.

The Great Plains Black Museum is located at 2213 Lake and is open from 10 am to 5 pm Monday through Friday. Tours are available for groups of 10 or more and the cost is \$2 per person.

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## Stereotypical rogue defies stereotype

### Your Piece of Chalk

Duncan Joyner

Funny happenings are common in this oppressed world we live in. Not all are funny, some are just neat, but none the less, not all happenings are violent and exploitative. However, because of what we watch on TV and on the movie screen, we have a stereotype in our minds of people who dress a certain way like people we see in movies. I myself am no exception.

One night, my friend Wheezy (remember her from the SHOWBIZ excursion) and I had just gotten done watching a movie. We decided to get some ice cream from the local Dairy Queen, and consequently, drove there. We ate our Peanut Buster Parfaits and decided to get some coffee at the nearby Village Inn. We got into my car and proceeded to drive up the hill toward the coffee house. As we were halfway up the hill, I noticed my car starting to sputter. Recognizing that my road beast was out of gas, I quickly turned into a liquor store parking lot. The FlourPot Number 3 was the name of this store, and it was donned with drunken slugs going in and out.

Almost into a parking stall, my car died. I opened the door to steer while my foot pushed the car into the stall. Then, I got out the gas can from my trunk, and proceeded to put a little more than a gallon's worth of gas into my craving gas tank. Hoping that this would give me enough gas to get to the nearest gas station, I ran to the driver's seat and tried to start the car.

No such luck.

"Wheezy, the car's not starting. It must have been really dry. Are you ready to walk?"

"Well," Wheezy replied, "my mom sometimes hangs out at Dairy Queen with some of her friends, but she usually doesn't get there until 9:30 or so, if she goes at all. We could walk down there, which is much shorter than the nearest gas station, and ask her to give us a ride. By the time we walk down, she should be there."

Agreeing that it was as good of a plan as any, I locked the doors and we set off. After about fifteen minutes, Wheezy and I reached Dairy Queen and her mom was indeed there, although not with her friends but with Wheezy's younger brother. After explaining the situation to her mom, Wheezy and I, feeling rather junior high-ish, dove into the back seat of her mother's car and rode with her mother to the gas station.

On the way to the gas station, Wheezy's mom started asking us questions about the movie we saw.

"What was it about? Was it as good as the Leonard Maltin guy on *Entertainment Tonight* said it was? Wait, do you hear a siren?"

She pressed the button that automatically rolls down both windows.

“Because of what we watch on TV and on the movie screen, we have a stereotype in our minds of people who dress a certain way like people we see in movies.”

"No, I don't hear anything mom," Wheezy said. I agreed with her.

"Yah mom, me either," chimed in Wheezy's younger brother Koala.

"Well ok," Wheezy's mom accepted, "but I could have sworn I heard something. Oh well. (She rolled up the window) Now about that movie, was it..."

"Ma."

"Be quiet, Koala, I'm trying to talk to Wheezy and Duncan. Anyway was it emotionally revealing like..."

"Ma."

"Not now, Koala. Was it emotionally revealing

like that great *Steel Magnolias* movie, or was it..."

"Ma."

"Shut up, Koala, you are, from here on, not allowed to speak until Wheezy and Duncan leave. Now where was I?"

"Uh, mom," Wheezy replied, "we saw *Out For Justice*, the new Steven Seagal movie; there were no emotions."

"Oh," the mother of Wheezy replied.

"Mom," spoke Koala, "you rolled the window over my finger; could you please roll it down—it really hurts."

“After explaining the situation to her mom, Wheezy and I, feeling rather junior high-ish, dove into the back seat of her mother's car and rode with her mother to the gas station.”

"Oh my gosh, honey, are you alright?"

"No mom, but I probably will be fine once you roll down the window."

"Oh, yah. I'm so sorry, honey, why didn't you say anything?"

And that was how the car conversation went. Anyway, we got the gas and took it to my car. I put it in and still my car did not work.

By this time I had amassed quite a few people looming over my car, the kinds of people that I had just seen killed, justifiably, in the Steven Seagal movie.

"Why don't you pop the hood, boy," this evil-looking, road-blazing, hell-raising, bearded man said to me.

Wheezy's mom reversed her car, obviously preparing to take off in case of trouble.

I popped the hood and hoped that this killer would not steal my engine.

"Well hell boy, looks pretty smoky in there."

"Uh, good observation," I whispered to myself, as I tried to find the man through the smoke that had filled the air.

Then a woman, carrying a bottle of some unidentifiable-by-my-eyes alcohol, came and started telling me her car history.

"It looks a little smoky 'cuz yur overheated, boy; you got any anni-freez?"

As a matter of fact, I did. I got the "anni-freez" out of my trunk and put it into my empty radiator.

Still no luck.

"Listen boy, you got to do this," the bearded road man said to me as he instructed me to do something I didn't understand.

"No, what you wanna do," added one of his motor pals, looking equally scary, "is wait five minutes, turn your key half way, not all the way, wait another five minutes and do the same thing. After five more minutes, I guarantee your car will be ready and working."

"Uh, are you sure?" I questioned.

"Yah, positive. It's an old army trick that we used to use when the car overheated while we was playing poker."

I followed the man's instructions, quite skeptically, and it worked!

I was amazed and confused. How could this evil, bearded, road-runnin', hell-blazin, demon of the motorcycle kingdom, help me (and incidentally, not kill me) for no real gain, except the satisfaction of helping a fellow human being. Such a humane concept for a person that was just killed, not two hours earlier in this bad movie I watched. I guess TV lobotomizes the masses into seeing stereotypes instead of people. What a controlling concept, yet people watch these kinds of movies everyday oblivious to the fact that their opinions are being metamorphosized into the opinions of some TV producer in Hollywood.

## SPORTS BRIEF

## Football scholarships awarded

Two Central athletes have recently been accepted for full-fledged sports scholarships. Matt Scanlan, senior, won a football scholarship to the Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland. Also, Rodney Evans, senior, received a football scholarship for his tuition at Northwest Missouri State. "If I didn't have this scholarship," Rodney said, "I wouldn't be sure of my chances at college."

## Basketball teams prepare for district competitions

The Central High School boys' basketball team is preparing for district and state to look forward to in the very near future. Districts will be held February 28, 29, and March 1. The first two teams they play are Creighton Prep and Northwest State will be held on March 12-14. It will be at the Devaney Sports Center. The team's record so far is 12-10.

The girls' team opens districts February 25-26.

## Swim teams prepare for state meet

"We're looking good and I feel we will have a much better showing at state competition than we did in Metro," Reiser, junior, said.

According to Mr. Allner, the head swimming coach, boys have been doing well in the meets. The girls are on a different path. He said, "The older girls have a natural talent, but they're just not getting the job done. The younger girls swam great." Coach Allner guarantees the girls will sharpen up for the state competition.

In the Metro swim meet the boys' team finished in 11th place and the girls' in eleventh place.

State diving will be held on February 27, and swimming will be held on February 28 and 29.

## Wrestlers participate at State meet

In the district A-2 wrestling meet, six Central wrestlers qualified for state. They were, Jeff Casady, sophomore, 103, Jason Lawrence, freshman, at 112, John Kolvek, senior, at 125, Kacasha Station, senior, at 152, John Brilz, junior, at 160, and Demetrious Richards, junior, at 189. The team finished fourth in their district out of 10 teams.

At state Jeff Casady and Jason Lawrence lost their first round matches, John Kolvek, Jason Brilz and Demetrious Richards lost in the quarterfinals and Kacasha Station finished at fifth place in the state.

## Spring tryouts begin

Tryouts are beginning for spring sports. You must have a physical exam, an activity card, and proof of insurance in order to try out for a school team.

Locker Room Talk  
Tim James

"It's the premier conference, top to bottom!"  
—Dick Vitale

The Big Eight has always been nationally known for its option and power rushing football teams, but never for its basketball, with the exceptions of the tradition-filled Kansas Jayhawks and the always-so-arrogant Oklahoma Sooners.

Now that such powers as Oklahoma State, Missouri, Iowa State and Nebraska have arisen out of the fields, the Big Eight has received more attention from the media on the coasts. The teams have now finally shown the press what the league has been hiding for years.

For the first time ever, the Big Eight could possibly send six out of the eight to the NCAA tournament starting on March 19. The only thing that is holding back all six teams is inter-conference play. Just last Wednesday, the bottom four of the conference beat the top four, creating confusion about who is the leader. Every team plays each other twice, one at home and one away, and then in a single elimination tournament with all teams seeded one through eight.

A .500 record in the Big Eight is quite acceptable this year, since six are ranked in the Top 50. These teams have accumulated 4,005 total points in the most recent Associated Press Poll to put the Big Eight first out of all Division I conferences. Also, the league had a combined record of 97-13, (.882 Pct.), against non-conference opposition, ranking highest above any other Division I conference.

The Kansas Jayhawks lead the conference and hold a 9-2 record, but their only Big Eight losses were away against the Cowboys and the Huskers. Under Roy Williams for the past 4 years, the Jayhawks have strengthened their image since they were put on probation because of Larry Brown's recruiting violations. He formerly assisted North

The teams have now finally shown the press what the league has been hiding for years.

Carolina's Dean Smith, an opponent the Jayhawks defeated in last year's NCAA Tournament. Currently third in the nation, Williams leads a team destined for another league championship and is determined to make a fine showing at the "Big Dance." With the momentum that they have gained recently, I would be surprised if they didn't make it to the Final Four.

Missouri holds second place in the Big Eight presently with a 7-3 record and a 19-4 record overall. The Tigers hold a ninth place ranking in the AP Poll and deserve every vote they received. The

only losses the team has in league play are to Kansas, Oklahoma State and Colorado. Led by Anthony Peeler, the four-year starter at guard, the Tigers run a furious fast-break offense that tears up their opponents.

The Oklahoma State Cowboys follow close behind with a 21-5 record as of last weekend and a 5-5 record in the Big Eight. Coached by Eddie Sutton, the "Pokes" contend in a conference loaded with gunning teams and hold a #14 national ranking. In their first 20 games, they went undefeated to become the Big Eight's first 20-0 start in its 84-year history. With their five losses, all in the conference, the Cowboys seem to be struggling on the road as of late but should make a strong showing at the Tournament.

The rest of the Big Eight looks promising, even though the three dominant teams receive all of the attention. Iowa State is an team that ranks fourth in the Big Eight standings. Very underpublicized, Johnny Orr has coached the Cyclones to a impressive 18-8 record overall, but only a 4-6 record inside the Big Eight. Look for Iowa State in the tournament, but don't expect them to advance past the second round.

Nebraska looks to be setting a standard for winning at home (if they don't blow the game in the last minutes), and losing away. The Huskers are 2-3 away and 3-2 at home in league play. One home victory was against Oklahoma State three weeks ago, but then they followed that impressive showing with a "choke" loss away at Kansas State. The Huskers are eyeing the tournament, and might get a high seed if they win another big game in the regular season or conference tournament.

Oklahoma has struggled through the league, posting a disappointing 5-6 record. Overall, they still hold a 17-7 record and a ranking in the Top 50. The Sooners also have the Nebraska syndrome of barely winning at home, but have defeated Oklahoma State on their home court. Oklahoma should qualify for the NCAA tournament if they have a strong showing the rest of the season.

Colorado and Kansas State round out the bottom of the league, but surprisingly Colorado has picked off Oklahoma State, Oklahoma and Missouri at the Buffaloes' home court, and came very close against Kansas. Kansas State beat Nebraska and Iowa State on their home floor, but look very weak against other teams. In their first three Big Eight games, they were defeated by an average of 29.9 points. Even though the Buffaloes and Wildcats won't make the national tournament, they will sure try and stop the major Big Eight foes.

The Big Eight is the best it's ever been and looks as if it will continue the tradition of great basketball in the future. Some people may disagree, but I see the Big Eight sending six teams to the NCAA tournament and maybe the chance of seeing two of those in the Final Four. So when the time comes to fill out those office tournament pools, make sure the Big Eight teams go far on your charts. You might be surprised at how well you do.

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# Central student brings home the gold

Joe Maginn

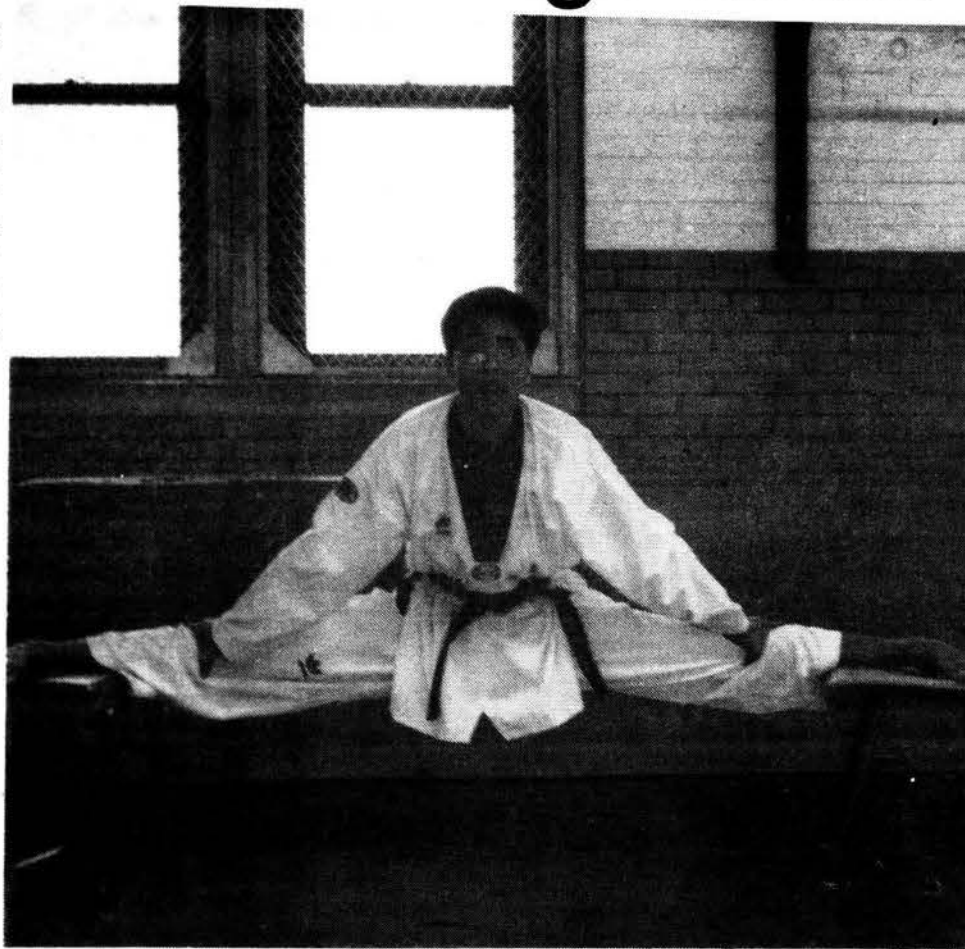
It was a feeling of great accomplishment." Mike Teanio, sophomore, used those words to sum up his success at the Junior Olympics. Mike, a second-degree black belt, won the gold medal for karate at the 1991 Junior Olympics, held in Cincinnati, Ohio. The Junior Olympics involve athletes 16-years-old or under who desire to make the National Team. For Mike, this victory is the culmination of a lifetime of hard work and practice.

Mike began practicing taekwondo at the age of four. He said, "It's good to start early, but you can begin anytime." He began because many of his family members were already involved with taekwondo. Mike started competing in the Junior Olympics at the age of nine. He has since won "several silver medals". "Dedication and a lot of good trainers" led to Mike's victory. At the competition, which lasted from June 20 to June 27, he fought in a series of matches, called spars. There were over 200 individuals in Mike's division. "I sparred against 24 people over two days." Mike won each of these on the way to winning the gold medal.

After his success at the Junior Olympics, Mike was asked to join the National Team. "I said I'd be willing to," stated Mike. He then traveled to the National Training Center in Denver, Colorado.

Here, Mike began the grueling training that prepared him for international competition. He worked for two to three hours daily and was often running, sparring and practicing his kicks. "It was the hardest thing I've ever done in my life," said Mike. "I have never gone through so much pain."

On the completion of this training phase,



**Hanging from his feet...** Mike Teanio, sophomore, demonstrates his flexibility. Mike recently won a gold medal at the 1991 Junior Olympics.

the Team began an extensive tour. Competitions were held in Los Angeles, Africa, Hawaii and Seoul, Korea. Mike performed well at these. He finished second in Los Angeles, third in Africa, first in Hawaii and third in Korea. "Korea was tough," he said.

Along with gaining invaluable experience, the tour gave Mike the

opportunity to visit several countries. He stated, "It gave me the opportunity to meet new people."

The National Team toured for most of the summer. Mike did not return home until late August on the second day of school. He admitted that he got a "little homesick" because it was hard to keep in touch with family and friends. "You start

to miss your friends after a while."

As a member of the National Team, Mike was automatically eligible for the Olympic Team. A frustrating shoulder injury stepped into the path of Mike's Olympic hopes. His doctor advised Mike not to participate because his shoulder would likely retain permanent damage at such a high level of competition. "It was really disappointing," confessed Mike.

Mike is still heavily active in the sport. He practices five days a week, a total of 15 to 20 hours weekly, at Shin's Academy. His instructor is Mr. Sukki Shin, an eighth-degree black belt. Mike said Mr. Shin is the "highest belt in the Midwest."

Along with learning taekwondo, Mike has also begun to teach it. He teaches for the Junior Olympics and holds classes at Offutt Air Force Base. Mike helps his students improve their kicking and breathing abilities.

He stressed the importance of good technique by saying poor skills "lead to pulled muscles or injuries." Many of his students go on to the Junior Olympics. Mike said, "Taekwondo helps build confidence and discipline." He added, "It's one of the best exercises for physical fitness."

Mike normally will teach a student four to five times a week for an average one and a half hours per lesson. "Your mind and determination have a lot to do with taekwondo," he said. He added, "It's not your age or size, it's your mind." One of his students is a 74-year-old woman. Mike said, "She's pretty tough."

"Taekwondo is a good thing to know right now because of the danger of crime." Mike indicated he will continue his involvement with martial arts in the future. "I might begin a school to help people learn how to defend themselves," he said.

Tim Gallagher

## Former Central high diver returns as the new diving coach

Rachel Kozol

Mikala Tomes, a Central High 1991 graduate, thought last May was the end to the good times of high school.

Now she says it's not too bad to hang onto a part of Central in a small way. Despite the demand of college and work, Mikala is currently Central's first diving coach.

Mark Allner's coaching offer last January was partly due to Mikala's overwhelming athletic experience.

Throughout high school, Mikala has dived at Burke High, due to the lack of a Central team. She attended diving camps at UNL and taught diving skills to young children at Morton Junior High.

In addition to this, Mikala

has been exposed to the athletic training of two Olympic experienced coaches, Gary Cox and Bruce Dart. She has also received recognition as a gymnast, lifeguard and Central cheerleader.

One big downfall Mikala says, is Omaha's lack of diving resources. "Omaha is not a diving town," she stressed.

According to Mikala, this creates a problem with the divers' practices, which are held with the swimmers at Norris Junior High on Thursdays and Fridays. "Practicing with the swimmers is exasperating," she said. "They tend to take over and kick us out by five."

Mikala is uncertain about the team's future practicing at Norris.



**Back for more...** Mikala Tomes, a 1991 Central graduate explains the proper diving technique to Kim Scofield, senior.

Diving is one of the few sports in which conditioning is required yearlong.

"If we're kicked out," Mikala remarked, "we'd maybe continue our practices at Creighton or Morton."

Also, in the summer, Mikala is hoping to practice several times a week at Hitchcock or Elmwood.

The key to diving is the vertical jump," Mikala observed. "If you

can't do the vertical, a front or back jump will be impossible."

She is helping first-year divers Misty Hemmingsen, sophomore, and Genisa Zaremski, junior, perfect these skills. Senior Kim Scofield, the team's third athlete, ranked second in a January 27 Westside competition.

But despite a few meets, Mikala believes the team has a relaxed attitude. "I don't really boss

them around since I just came here a few weeks ago," she commented, "but I always show them I can still do things."

Mikala was sure to mention that the closeness of age between herself and the divers has created no complications in their work together.

In addition to her already-busy schedule, Mikala is a full-time student at UNO studying nursing and is an employee at Toys R Us.

Mikala says the small paycheck she receives from the Teacher Administration Center is only a very small part of her motivation as a coach. "I take my job as a kind of honor," she remarked.

Of her future with the diving team, Mikala concluded, "I'm planning to stick around as long as they keep me."

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# Curling team succeeds at national

By Rachel Kozol

Curling, says senior Else Festersen, is not exactly a big thing to a wide majority of teen-agers in Omaha. But, on a national level, this sport can hold its own against many other ordinary athletic events, she added.

In Seattle, Washington, February 1-8, Else, along with Michelle McCune, senior, and Donald Buscher, sophomore, represented Nebraska at the 1992 Junior Women's and Men's National Curling Championship.

Being chosen foreither of these two teams is attributed to these athletes' showing of curling skills at Omaha's local Ak-Sar-Ben Curling Club.

Else, who has attended the nationals for the past six consecutive years, commented, "This year Seattle did a great job at hosting the event." Donald agreed with this, "We had a lot of fun." Ak-Sar-Ben also chipped in about \$150 for airfare and the team's stay at the Best Western Inn.

Third year competitor Donald stressed the tough competition the teams faced, "It was very hard, the nothern schools compete more regularly than here."

Nebraska, in a joint standing with Texas and Colorado, placed 3-4 in Junior Women's against eight teams, and 5-4 upon ten teams in the Junior Men's Round.

Curling is unique. Each player shoots two granite stones with a broom or stick each end or inning, alternately with their opponent on the other team. A twist of the handle will cause the stone to curl.

All four team members shoot two stones an inning and sweep for their teammates' shots. While one player shoots, two sweep as needed. Sweeping polishes the ice so the stone can travel

more lightly. In a two-hour game a curler can walk a possible two miles. Meanwhile, the skip acts as the team captain and strategist.

The playing surface is called "a sheet of ice," and it allows play in both directions. The object of shooting is to get the stone, or rock, to come to rest at a predetermined place (a draw or guard) or to move another rock (a takeout or raise).

The score is determined at the end of 16 stones. The maximum score in one inning is eight points. Usually, one to three points are scored. Games are eight to ten innings, lasting two to two-and-a-half hours.

Else and Michelle feel the game is a combination of hard work and recreation. "I play for fun," Michelle remarked. "There is always some competition, but it is to help you improve," she stressed.

Else was more or less on one side of this. "I'm a competitive person," she said, "if I miss a point I can't wait to get back and do better."

Besides this, both Else and Michelle believe curling is similar to other high school sports in more ways than one. "You need the same qualities of enthusiasm, practice and dedication," Else acknowledged.

Michelle also linked this connection to teamwork. "You can always see how each player is different," she said. "Curling brings out the qualities in others."

Else agreed with this, "You learn to stick together," she remarked, "we're all such close friends." Both Else and Donald became involved with curling through their families; Michelle learned through friends.

Unlike some high school sports, curling is short on resources and recognition. "You need to get out of your



Sliding along... Donald Buscher, sophomore, demonstrates his curling skills during a practice at the Ak-Sar-Ben Curling Club.

local club," Else commented. She is involved with four different leagues at Ak-Sar-Ben. Donald competes in two and Michelle is in one.

Else though stressed the great deal of fun that is possible for a low price. Membership usually runs at about \$15 per year. "It's free to come in and watch," Else added to this.

Else's mother is a coach to her team,

Ak-Sar-Ben otherwise provides co

But, according to Donald, curling is boring to watch though it is fun to play the sport. "It's tough due to its strategy."

Both Else and Michelle plan to return back next year for nationals, and Michelle is somewhat relating her college search to nearby curling clubs.




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